

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Speaker Mautino: "The hour of 12:30 having arrived, the House will come to order. We shall be led in prayer today by Pastor Shaun Lewis who is the Illinois State Director of Capitol Ministries, serving the political leaders of Illinois. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones and pagers and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance."

Pastor Lewis: "Let us pray. It's Proverbs 3:5-6 says, 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.' Father in heaven, each Member of this House has been given the right to represent the interest of thousands. They have much to consider and the issues brought to their attention often have repercussions that will reverberate well into the future. In all humility, may they turn aside from their own inclinations and look to You for wisdom. May they be statesmen concerned about the next generation, and not politicians concerned only with the next election. Give wisdom to these men and women, we pray, and be gracious to them as well. Comfort them as they're away from home. I pray for those who do not know You as Lord and Savior, the pattern of their lives... pray for those who know You as Lord and Savior, that the pattern of their lives will be a testimony of Your work in them. I pray for each that does not know You, that You'd open their eyes and turn their hearts to You. I pray these things in the name of Jesus, Amen."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Speaker Mautino: "We shall be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by Representative McAsey."

McAsey - 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 Mautino: "Mr. Clerk, Roll Call for Attendance. Majority Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record reflect the excused absences of Representatives Harris and Rita."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Jackson, Representative Bost."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect that Representative Mulligan is excused today on the Republican side of the aisle."

Speaker Mautino: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 answering the roll, a quorum is present. Representative Rose."

Rose: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm a... First of all, may I have a point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker?"

Speaker Mautino: "Certainly. Proceed."

Rose: "Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm very happy today to present to you Sergeant First Class Joel Jessop of the 634th National Guard out of Sullivan, Illinois. Sergeant Jessup is back on a two-week leave from Camp Phoenix, Afghanistan. Could we all thank him and show him our appreciation for his service to our state and country."

Speaker Mautino: "Thank you for your service and welcome to Springfield. Mr. Clerk."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Clerk Mahoney: "Committee Reports. Representative D'Amico, Chairperson from the Committee on Vehicles & Safety, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 75 and Senate Bill 1897; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' is Senate Bill 1341; 'do pass as amended Standard Debate' is Senate Bill 1467. Representative Phelps, Chairperson from the Committee on Health Care Licenses, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 1487 and Senate Bill 1507. Representative John Bradley, Chairperson from the Committee on Judiciary I-Civil Law, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 100, Senate Bill 154, Senate Bill 1053, Senate Bill 1389, Senate Bill 1541, Senate Bill 1590, Senate Bill 1612, and Senate Bill 1631. Representative Jakobsson, Chairperson from the Committee on Human Services, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 231, Senate Bill 1330, Senate Bill 1372, Senate Bill 1393, Senate Bill 1404, Senate Bill 1628, Senate Bill 1704, Senate Bill 1736; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' is Senate Bill 212; 'recommends be adopted' is House Resolution 65. Representative Smith, Chairperson

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 35, Senate Bill 79, Senate Bill 187, Senate Bill 1276, Senate Bill 1412, Senate Bill 1675, Senate Bill 1828; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' is Senate Bill 269; 'recommends be adopted' is House Resolution 56. Referred to the House Committee on Rules is House Resolution 275, House Resolution 288, House Resolution 293, House Joint Resolution 45, House Joint Resolution 46, and House Joint Resolution 47."

Speaker Mautino: "Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Mahoney: "On the Order of Agreed Resolutions is House Resolution 271, offered by Representative Mulligan. House Resolution 272, offered by Representative Cross. House Resolution 273, offered by Representative Poe. House Resolution 276, offered by Representative Howard. House Resolution 277, offered by Representative Ryg. House Resolution 278, offered by Representative Davis. House Resolution 279, offered by Representative Bellock. House Resolution 280, offered by Representative Nekritz. House Resolution 281, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 282, offered by Representative Acevedo. House Resolution 283, offered by Representative Nekritz. House Resolution 284, offered by Representative Madigan. House Resolution 286, offered by Representative Senger. House Resolution 287, offered by Representative Dugan. House Resolution 289, offered by Representative Ramey. House

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Resolution 290, offered by Representative Flider. And House Resolution 291, offered by Representative Saviano. And House Resolution 292, offered by Representative Cole."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Currie now moves the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The Agreed Resolutions have been adopted. For what reason is the Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Miller, seeking recognition?"

Miller: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Mautino: "Proceed."

Miller: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I just want to welcome Doctor Mike Durbin, Illinois Trustee of the Illinois State Dental Society, with all our dental colleagues here in the Capitol today, legislating and coming down lobbying for a good oral health and for... not just for all the Members of the General Assembly, but for the State of Illinois. If you could stand and let's welcome him."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Riley is seeking recognition."

Riley: "A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Mautino: "State your point."

Riley: "I'd like to and I hope that they're here, I was told that they were here, a very good group, the Manufactured Home Owners Association of Illinois. And in my district there's a very active group from the Maple Brook Homes in the Village of Matteson. So, if they're here anywhere, let's give them a good Springfield round of applause."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Speaker Mautino: "Welcome to Springfield. The Gentleman from Kendall, Republican Leader Tom Cross is seeking recognition. You have the floor, Sir."

Cross: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, on a point of personal privilege. I have the honor of working with a group in my... from my legislative district that provide a good bit of insight and ideas with respect to problems in this state, and also, specifically, on some legislative ideas and that's my senior advisory group and they're also down here today. They're going to spend a couple of days watching how we work or don't work, whatever the case may be. So, if we could give them a warm welcome, I'd appreciate it as well. They're right up here. Thank you very much."

Speaker Mautino: "Welcome to Springfield and thank you for your work. The Lady from Lake, Representative May is seeking recognition."

May: "Yes, thank you, Speaker. I would like to draw the Assembly's attention to the fact that it is Earth Day. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts gave us the green ribbons, that I see many of you are supporting. So, on this day we remember that we don't inherit the Earth from our parents; we borrow it from our grandchildren. And I encourage all of us to protect the Earth for our grandchildren like my Jackson and Barbara's grandchildren and your future grandchildren, Mr. Speaker. So, we salute Earth Day and remember to preserve it for the future. Thank you very much."

Speaker Mautino: "Thank you, Representative. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, on page 13 and 14 of the Calendar

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

appears Motions in writing. And by agreement with the Republican Party we will take these Motions on one Roll Call. The Motion... the following Motions, Representative... Excuse me. House Bill 401, House Bill 417, House Bill 420, House Bill 423, House Bill 424, House Bill 425, House Bill 426, House Bill 427, House Bill 428, House Bill 429, House Bill 430, House Bill 431, House Bill 539, House Bill 540, House Bill 541, House Bill 642, House Bill 647, House Bill 738. Mr. Clerk, strike House Bill 738. The next Bill is House Bill 945, House Bill 946, House Bill 947, House Bill 949, House Bill 2255, House Bill 2256, House Bill 2512, House Bill 3709, House Bill 3715, House Bill 3830, House Bill 3917. House Bill 39... Mr. Clerk, a correction. It is not House Bill 3907... it is not House Bill 3917, it is House Bill 3907. House Bill 3910, House Bill 3957, House Bill 4172, House Resolution 88. Representative Currie now moves, at the request of those Sponsors, that we table the aforementioned Bills. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the aforementioned Bills are tabled. Representative Graham is seeking recognition."

Graham: "Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Mautino: "State your point."

Graham: "Please join me in welcoming to my... behind me here, private college students down for their lobby day. They're lobbying for funding for student aid and to restore the health care services grants. Please welcome them. They're from private colleges; DePaul University, Dominican University, Knox College, Loyola University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Robert Morris College, Roosevelt

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

University, and University of Chicago. Please give them a round of applause, please."

Speaker Mautino: "Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, it's the intention to go to the Order of Resolutions. It can be found on your Calendars on pages 6 and 7. I'd ask those Members with Resolutions to return to their chairs. House Joint Resolution, Mr. Clerk, 17. Representative Brady. Is he in... Yes, he is. Representative Brady on House Joint Resolution 17."

Brady: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 17 simply facilitates and recognizes Alzheimer's research in the State of Illinois and I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves passage of House Resolution... House Joint Resolution 17. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'yeses' have it and the Resolution is adopted. House Joint Resolution 18, Representative Bassi is at her seat. Would the Lady... There is an Amendment. Representative Bassi."

Bassi: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We need to adopt Amendment... Floor Amendment 2, please."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves passage of Floor Amendment 2... the Lady moves the adoption of Floor Amendment 2. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yeses' have it. The Amendment is adopted. Representative Bassi on House Joint Resolution 18."

Bassi: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, this particular Resolution provides for a task force to ensure that the Cindy Bischof Bill, which we have passed, that



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

provides for the GPS tracking of a violent domestic perpetrator, to be sure that we check on the progress of the implementation of that particular Bill and it requires a report to the General Assembly. And I would request passage."

Speaker Mautino: "Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, the Lady has moved passage of House Joint Resolution. This creates a task force and requires a vote. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, all in favor vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. This House Joint Resolution 18 is declared passed... is declared adopted. House Joint Resolution 20, Representative Pihos. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 20 designates the month of March 2009 and every March thereafter as Women's History Month in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage, Representative Pihos."

Pihos: "Yes, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. As you know, March was Woman's History Month and at intermittent times we tried to highlight the women of history and the work that they have done as contributing members to our state and our society, and this is simply to underscore that particular month."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage moves adoption of House Joint Resolution 20. On that question, all in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yesses' have it. House Joint

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Resolution 20 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, House Joint Resolution 10. The Lady from Lake, Representative May."

May: "Thank you, Speaker. House Joint Resolution 10 urges the General Assembly to consider environmental issues when putting together its capital construction Bill. I think all of us, regardless of Party and where we live in the state, are very interested in promoting a Capital Bill. This just has us consider environmental protection, energy efficiency, as well as creating jobs when we pass a capital Bill."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Joint Resolution 10. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'yeses' have it, and House Joint Resolution 10 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, on page 5 of the Calendar appears House Resolution 64 under Agreed Resolutions. The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Lyons."

Lyons: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, this is a Death Resolution for one of our former Members, so could you please clear the floor?"

Speaker Mautino: "All staff to move to the back of the chamber. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 64, offered by Representative Lyons and Madigan, mourns the death of our esteemed colleague from Illinois, Representative and Senator, Thaddeus 'Ted' Lechowicz."

Lyons: "Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for this very special day. I had the privilege of going over to the memorial for the holocaust today. It's one of those things that I was so well-intended doing for so many years, and finally this

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

year I got over there. It was a beautiful, beautiful ceremony. They had a lady by the name of Marva Brown there who was a holocaust survivor from Auschwitz. So, in light of that, this Resolution has been on the Calendar for quite awhile and it does honor a former Member here, Ted Lechowicz, who was from the northwest side of Chicago. Ted was a graduate of Weber High School, one of those fine, wonderful all boys high schools in the City of Chicago and later on worked himself through college. He worked at a butcher shop; put himself through Wright College and later North Park College. He served in the United States Army as a commander of a company and later got a first governmental job working for the Clerk of the Court. In 1969, Ted ran for the House and was elected from the northwest side of Chicago, part of that district which I now represent. He later became to the rank of Assistant Majority Leader, colleague of course with Representative... Speaker Madigan and later went on to the Senate for reasons which are on beyond any of us, understanding why he'd leave here to go to the Senate. But Ted decided to go there and also was in Leadership in the Senate. He was a member of many Polish organizations: the Polish National Alliance, the Chicago Society, the Copernicus Center. Ted was one of those great ethnic kids from the neighborhood, from the Polish community in Chicago who very proudly represented our community for many, many years, first in the House and then in the Senate. He actually finished up his career as a commissioner on the County Board in Cook County. But he was just a kid from the neighborhood, just like many of us.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

And sometimes we look up here when we do these wonderful Death Resolutions honoring some of our former Members, we need to stop and think, my dear colleagues, some day our names are going to be up there. And God knows if somebody will remember us for good, for bad, for the things that we've accomplished, but Ted Lechowicz was a wonderful human being, a hard-working son-of-a-gun, a big, tough, Polish kid from the northwest side of Chicago who did an excellent job representing our community and this neighborhood. Ted is survived by his wife Suzanne of 44 years; his son, Ed; and his daughter Laura who works at Cook County with me in the capacity as an attorney for the President of the County Board. So, I thank you for you taking time out to remember a wonderful human being. He'll be missed in Chicago and on the northwest side."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 64. All in favor signify by 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yesses' have it and the Resolution is adopted. On page 8 of the Calendar appears House Joint Resolution 23, Representative Pihos. Mr. Clerk, read the House Joint Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 23 urges Congress to continue funding the federal Violence Against Women Act."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage, Representative Pihos."

Pihos: "I'm sorry. I'm having a technical difficulty for a moment. Yes, House Joint Resolution 23 urges Congress to continue funding the federal Violence Against Women Act. And we hope that our voice will be one amongst many when they consider the continuation of this funding."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves the adoption of House Joint Resolution 23. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yesses' have it. House Joint Resolution 23 is adopted. On page 8 of the Calendar appears House Joint Resolution 29, Representative Ford, the Gentleman from Cook. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 29 resolves that determining whether an individual is disabled for purposes of any program administered by the Department of Human Services, the Department shall follow the most recently updated rules adopted by the Social Security Administration concerning an individual working while disabled, including without limitation rules concerning a trial work period and whether an individual's earnings are substantial."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Ford."

Ford: "I ask for a favorable vote for House Joint Resolution 29. Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves passage of House Joint Resolution 29. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'yesses' have it. House Joint Resolution 29 is hereby adopted. Mr. Clerk, House Joint Resolution 30 appears on page 8 of the Calendar. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 30 authorizes the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority to expand the Illinois Toll Highway System to include a bypass to O'Hare International Airport (commonly known as the Western Access) to be constructed generally along the western edge of the O'Hare International Airport byway (sic-between) I-

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

90 (Northwest/Jane Addams Tollway) and I-294 (Tri-State Tollway), with the extension to be constructed in a generally east-west direction between west of I-290 (near Roosevelt (sic-Roselle) Road)."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from DuPage, Representative Biggins."

Biggins: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be glad to answer any questions anyone may have on House Joint Resolution 30. I think the description, as read by the Clerk, is adequate so far."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman has moved adoption of House Joint Resolution 30. This will require a Roll Call. All in favor vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 114 voting 'yes', 1 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. This Resolution is declared adopted. Mr. Clerk, on page 6 of the Calendar appears House Joint Resolution 2, Representative Reis. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mautino: "House Joint Resolution 2 designates the portion of U.S. Route 50, extending east between Salem and the Indiana border at Vincennes as the George Rogers Clark Memorial Highway."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Jasper, Representative Reis on the Resolution."

Reis: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. The Clerk gave a very good synopsis of what this Joint Resolution does to honor one of our greatest Revolutionary War history people who helped determine and

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

shape the United States as it is today. And I ask for its adoption."

Speaker Mautino: "No one seeking recognition. Ladies and Gentlemen, House Joint Resolution 2 does require a Roll Call vote. All in favor vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Does Representative Howard wish to be recorded on this Bill? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes', 0 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Joint Resolution 2 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, on page 8 of the Calendar appears House Joint Resolution 33, Representative Flider. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 33 establishes the Community Service Education Task Force to address what level of funding the Community Service Education Program under the Community Service Education Act should have."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Flider."

Flider: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This Resolution is a follow-up to legislation that was passed during the 95th General Assembly. And that legislation created the Community Service Education Act and it allows school districts to... to provide community service types of programs and apply for funding. And the state board would actually administer the program. However, we did not, at that time, try and appropriate any funding. We did talk about an appropriation Bill last year. I think there was some discussion that we weren't quite sure what the amount should be. So, the purpose of this Resolution

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

is simply to put together a special task force that would look at the possibilities in this program, make some recommendations as to what level of funding should occur. I ask for your 'aye' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Joint Resolution 33. On that, the Gentleman from Marion, Representative Cavaletto is seeking recognition."

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

Speaker Mautino: "If we can come back to you on the point of personal privilege. No one else seeking recognition, House... Representative Flider moves adoption of House Joint Resolution 33. On that will... All those in favor vote 'aye'; opposed vote 'no'. Voting's open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk... Does Representative Soto wish to be recorded? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes'; 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Joint Resolution 33 is declared adopted. The Gentleman from Marion, thank you for your patience, you have the floor."

Cavaletto: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege. I'd like to introduce the mayor of Salem and his wife, Leonard and Carol Ferguson. Please give them a warm welcome to the Capitol."

Speaker Mautino: "Welcome to Springfield. On House Resolution #7, Representative Brady. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 7 urges all state, local and county officials to adopt the Starcom 21 system to Interpol (sic-for interoperable) communications to ensure expedient



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

communication and action in the event of a disaster. Floor Amendment #2 to this Resolution has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 7. Floor amend... Floor e... Excuse me. The Gentleman moves adoption of Floor Amendment #2 to House Resolution 7. All in favor say 'yes; opposed 'no'. The 'yesses' have it and the Amendment is adopted. Representative Brady on House Resolution 7."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Resolution 7 simply directs... suggests, I should say, is the correct word, the law enforcement agencies to become part of the statewide Starcom 21 sys... radio system, the interoperable communication system, in particular, in my legislative district for the Bloomington area. And I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman has moved adoption of House Resolution 7. And on that question, the Gentleman from McHenry, Representative Franks."

Franks: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "He indicates he will."

Franks: "Could you tell me why the Bloomington Police Department is opposed to this?"

Brady: "The situation, Representative, that from what I understand, would be that the police department, I don't know that I would say... I'm not aware of the fact that they were opposed to it, they want assistance with purchasing radio equipment after they chose not to be part of the Starcom 21 system for the town of Normal and the county of

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

McLean, and to be a test site, of which we worked on several years ago. So I would... if there's opposition, I have not been so briefed from them other than in discussions with them, the concern about trying to have assistance financially to be part of the Starcom 21 radio system."

Franks: "I'm not sure I understood the answer on that. I'm... What are they using now?"

Brady: "They are on a different system. And in the day of interoperable radio communications is what we're all trying to, post 91, be directed towards. This is simply to suggest that we become interoperable together under Starcom 21 within McLean County."

Franks: "Because our analysis indicates that the Bloomington Police Department thinks that their system is superior to that of Starcom 21. And do you know what system that Bloomington is using?"

Brady: "I believe that they are on a analog system which does not have interoperable communications without certain patch-throughs to be part of the Starcom 21 system. And it has created at times very dangerous situations. This was my initiative to try and urge the City of Bloomington to revisit that issue, which they have, and are continuing right now and have had several meetings with Illinois Emergency Management, a Terrorism Task Force and others, looking at ways to be potentially become part of Starcom 21."

Franks: "Well, my concern is that I remember when in Illinois FIRST they were given \$25 million for this and I remember

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

that there was just a plethora of problems with Starcom 21. I don't know whether those have been fixed, because I think that the best they could do would be, I think, around 95 percent of the state coverage. They could never get to a hundred percent. That's... that's how I remember it approximately four or five years ago. What has been done since then? Has Starcom 21 actually fixed their product or are they just saying, well, since we've already spent \$25 a million let's throw good money after bad."

Brady: "Look, it... I would answer that by the following, Representative. Approximately, five years ago McLean County and St. Clair County had the opportunity to split a \$6 million federal grant to be test sites for Starcom 21, to work out the very issues that you are... have a question about. To date, it is my understanding that while maybe not 100 percent perfect all the time, it is superior to the present systems in which many other law enforcement agencies are operating in the State of Illinois. It has been recognized as the statewide system, and is, from what I understand in my county, warmly received through the sheriff's department and the town of Normal Police Department, fire departments and the list goes on. And statewide, the State Police as well as many, many other law enforcement agencies and emergency medical services are Starcom 21. I believe your concerns when they may have been a new communications technique were valid, but I believe those concerns have been answered and my interaction and involvement with this has been that the Starcom 21 radio system has done a tremendous job in

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

communications and filling any areas where there may be trouble with communications. And when I have a law enforcement community, the largest in my legislative district that's not interoperable with the other agencies, it causes problems."

Franks: "Oh, I'm not questioning that. I understand that. My concern, though, is we're pushing a specific product for a specific private company. I don't know if there are other products out there that could be intertwined with the Motorola product, because this is a digital product."

Brady: "Correct."

Franks: "I presume there are other radio sources made by other digital corporations that could be integrated with the existing Starcom 21 apparatus without requiring or encouraging a monopoly for a private corporation."

Brady: "That is correct. This is for the system, not the actual radio itself. The system of Starcom is not endorsing one particular provider over another. There are different interoperable ways now with the Starcom 21. What I'm encouraging and suggesting strongly to my police department in the City of Bloomington is that they continue to explore those options."

Franks: "My point is I'd like to... I'd like for them to explore the options that we all have the ability to communicate."

Brady: "Mmm mmm."

Franks: "My concern, though, is that it looks as though the General Assembly is endorsing a particular product from a private corporation, which concerns me greatly. I don't know if you're willing to amend this to encourage law

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

enforcement to get on one standard, whatever that standard is, but it seems to me is we're getting in the fight between, you know, Blue-Yay and HD. I'm not sure that's what we want to do. I think that we want to encourage the... our law enforcement to be on one standard. I am, though, concerned that we're endorsing one specific."

Brady: "I can certainly appreciate your concern. The intent of the Resolution, nor does it state a particular product provider, it suggests the system itself."

Franks: "But the Starcom 21 is only provided by one, one private company. Is that correct or not? Your staffer is saying no."

Brady: "I do not believe that is the case, Representative. And I also believe that..."

Speaker Mautino: "Gentlemen, bring your remarks to a close. If there are no further questions there, the Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black is seeking recognition."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "He indicates that he will."

Black: "Representative, the issue before us is a Resolution. It carries no force of law, correct?"

Brady: "That is correct."

Black: "Doesn't require anybody to do anything."

Brady: "That is correct."

Black: "It urges them to adopt an interoperable communications system. Starcom, I believe, is primarily developed by Motorola, an Illinois-based company, but doesn't require anybody to adopt the Starcom system, correct?"

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Brady: "That is correct."

Black: "This is a result of a multimillion, almost a \$30 million grant secured by United States Senator Richard Durbin. In... the grant was... indicated a Starcom quality system. Didn't mandate the system, but Senator Durbin thinks this is something we should do, correct?"

Brady: "Correct. It goes back, Representative, to several years ago as I indicated to Representative Franks, that simply, McLean County was a test site. And for a lot of different issues, the largest law enforcement municipality in my district chose not to be a part of that test site at the time. I think a number of things have changed. I think this has been something that will continue to keep discussions open and going towards trying to have interoperable communications in my legislative district."

Black: "In fact, as I recall, one of the findings from the investigation of the tragic 9/11 terrorist attack on the United States in New York City, one of the great problems they had was the inability to communicate with all of the emergency units on the scene and trying to coordinate the work. So, I think one of the recommendations was that we need a more comprehensive interoperable communications system in the case of such a national emergency. And I think that's what prompted Senator Durbin's interest, as I recall."

Brady: "I would say that's correct."

Black: "All right."

Brady: "Yes."

Black: "Thank you very much."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Brady: "Thank you."

Black: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, to the Resolution. I, in all due respect to the previous speaker, this Resolution does not mandate any particular product. It doesn't mandate any particular manufacturer. It doesn't require... The beauty of a Resolution is that it doesn't require anybody to do anything. It simply urges those people to look into what we should have done years ago, in my opinion, and that is to figure out how to adopt and adapt an interoperable radio communication or communication link, so that in the case of a national emergency or a local emergency or a local disaster, those units that must correspond and communicate with each other are able to do so. It's a Resolution certainly worthy of our support and I would... or certainly urge a... an 'aye' vote on the Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "Further questions? The Lady from DuPage, Representative Senger."

Senger: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to answer the previous speaker's note about do other vendors operate with Starcom 21 and they do. In my district we actually chose a system that is not Motorola and we... they were part of the process. But we chose another system and it does... it is interoperable with Starcom 21. So, there are other vendors out there that you can go to that operate with Starcom 21."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 7. And on that, all in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yeses' have it and House Resolution 7 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, page 9 of the Calendar appears House

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Resolution 10, Representative Hernandez. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 10 supports the goals of the Illinois Primary Care... Health Care Association's ACCESS ILLINOIS plan."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Hernandez."

Hernandez: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the Assembly. House Resolution 10 simply states that the General Assembly supports the goals of the Illinois Primary Health Care Association ACCESS ILLINOIS plan. The plan includes four key elements; one, which preserves and strengthens the current community health center expansion program; the second, would be build capacity by implementing a new community health center construction program to address the infrastructure needs; the third, would be attract and sustain a comprehensive primary care workforce; and four, expand health care coverage for Illinois's uninsured and underinsured population. I ask for your 'aye' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 10. Seeing no questions, all in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 10 is hereby adopted. On page 9 of the Calendar is House Resolution 19, Representative Cole. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 19, offered by Representative Cole, urges the Governor to present a capital budget that includes 100 million on an annual basis for the Illinois Special... correction. One hundred... For the annual basis for the Illinois Special Places Acquisition, Conservation and



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Enhancement (iSPACE) Program, which includes the following:  
(1) a new statewide land acquisition program to protect the state's most precious natural resources and provide recreational opportunities, including matching grants to local governments; (2) implementation of Partners for Conservation Program."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from Lake, Representative Cole."

Cole: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This House Resolution is part of the iSPACE Program. A little bit of background is that the most recent example was the Open Lands Trust Fund which the state funded from 1999 to 2003. Wisconsin, our neighbor to the north, which has four times as many conservation and recreation acres than Illinois per capita, also has a similar program. I would ask for adoption of this Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 19. Seeing no questions, the Motion... all in favor signify by 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The House Resolution 19 is adopted. House Resolution 20, Soto... Representative Soto. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 20, offered by Representative Soto, urges President Obama and the Congress to allocate \$2 billion of the next proposed economic stimulus program to create a youth employment program."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Soto."

Soto: "Yes. I urge an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "Easy enough. House Resolution 20, all in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 20 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, page 9 of the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Calendar, House Resolution 33. I believe there's an Amendment. The Gentleman from Champaign, Representative Rose."

Rose: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen. I would like to adopt the Amendment. I think we actually adopted the Amendment in committee, Mr..."

Speaker Mautino: "Actually, Mr. Clerk, status."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 33, Amendment #1 was adopted in committee."

Speaker Mautino: "On the Resolution, House Resolution 33, Representative Rose."

Rose: "Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Speaker. This is a simple Resolution. A constituent of mine was a caretaker for his elderly loved... beloved mother. She passed away. After her death he received a lien notice from Human Services for medical bills years old and tens of thousands of dollars. Now it's a lien against her estate, but certainly, as anyone who cares for an elderly parent, a sibling, or a loved one in an unfortunate circumstance, you know, after they pass on, you know, it's almost insult to injury, here you are dealing with the pain of your... the death of your loved one and then the state sends you a bill. His point really was not, though, the bill; his point was the... how far back in time the bill went and for all the number of services and vendors involved. Now that his loved one has passed on, he has absolutely no way at all to go back and challenge any or all of the items in the receipt list. So, this simply asks HFS to examine how and under what circumstances they notify recipients,

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

caregivers, and powers of attorney or guardians of what the status of their account is with the state. Certainly, the state is entitled to recoup costs from any estate in the future, this just helps, really, to try to give people the ability to contest, look at and make sure that these claims are accurate, while the person is still alive. I mean, at the same time I think we're trying to help give HFS a way to maybe conduct themselves in a more friendly manner towards someone who's just lost their loved one. It's a fairly simple Resolution. I'd ask for your support. Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 33. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' it. House Resolution 33 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, page 9 of the Calendar appears House Resolution 42. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 42, offered by Representative Burke, recognizes February 25, 2009, as the inaugural Eating Disorders Awareness Day in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Democratic Caucus Chair, Representative Burke."

Burke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. The title of the House Resolution speaks for itself. For those Members of the Executive Committee who heard testimony from young people and those engaged in the treatment of eating disorders, we came to learn that this particular mental disorder is at epidemic proportions, not only in our state but across the country. For the Members' information, I might want to unfortunately advise you that

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

every eight minutes a young person in our country dies of an eating disorder. A very, very serious mental disorder and any attention that we can give to this matter I think would be a help in those who are struggling with this very serious illness. And I would ask for the Body's favorable consideration."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves the adoption of House Resolution 42. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 42 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, page 10 of the Calendar is House Resolution 81, Representative Bost. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 81, offered by Representative Bost, declares September 26 of each year as Mesothelioma Awareness Day in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Jackson, Representative Bost. Out of the record. House Resolution 99 appears on page 10 of the Calendar, Representative Pihos. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 99, offered by Representative Pihos, proclaims May of 2009 and every May thereafter to be American Stroke Month in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Pihos."

Pihos: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. As we know, preventative health care has become very important in our society, and this Resolution for American Stroke Month to be recognized every May, from this May thereafter, simply is to heighten awareness, make people aware of the signs of stroke and to take

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

preventative care to keep themselves healthy and well. And I ask for your 'yes' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 99. And on that question, the Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I could not hear the woman's explanation. Would she yield for just one question?"

Speaker Mautino: "Absolutely."

Black: "All right. I read on the board, Representative, where May is going to be American Stroke Month. Does that mean that if you're going to have a stroke, it can only be in May?"

Pihos: "I hope we can prevent a stroke from everyone in May."

Black: "I see. So it's to call attention to the horrible possibility that you could... of what a stroke is and how to avoid it and all of that."

Pihos: "That's correct."

Black: "Well, I... I tell you, having been here for 23 Mays, this May, this May, this month of May coming up, may very well see more strokes in the General Assembly than at any time since I've been here. So, I think your Resolution is very timely."

Pihos: "Thank you, Representative."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage now moves her timely Resolution, House Resolution 99. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and House Resolution 99 is adopted. House Resolution 100, Representative Pihos. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution... 100."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 100, offered by Representative Pihos, proclaims May 5, 2009, as Illinois Clean Air and Asthma Awareness Day."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage."

Pihos: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'm glad that we can collectively be proactive to proclaim May 5, 2009, as Illinois Clean Air and Asthma Awareness Day. We know the importance of keeping people healthy and well by keeping our air as clean as possible and that is the intent of this Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 100. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 100 is adopted. House Resolution 101, Representative Pihos. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 101, offered by Representative Pihos, designates the third week of October in 2009 as Character Counts Week in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage."

Pihos: "Thank you again, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. We all know the importance of the program that our communities and our schools have enacted on character counts and we know the importance of displaying good character. And this simply designates the third week of October in order to recognize that character counts and promote that throughout the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves the adoption of House Resolution 101. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 101 is adopted."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

House Resolution 113, Representative Bellock. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 113, offered by Representative Bellock, it urges Congress to ensure that the funds associated with the Troubled Assets Relief Fund... Program are allocated to the financial institutions that will use the funds for new single-family home mortgage or refinancing existing single-family home mortgages."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. What House Resolution 113 does is to address the issue of the TARP funding, which is an estimated \$700 billion in financial aid going to financial institutions. And what this Resolution does is to urge Congress to ensure that the funds that are associated with TARP would be allocated to financial institutions that will use the funds for new single-family home mortgages and to refinance existing single-family home mortgages and to help improve the economy by doing so."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves passage of House Resolution 113. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The Resolution is adopted. Representative Bellock on House Resolution 118. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 118, offered by Representative Bellock, urges universities and K-12 schools throughout Illinois to warn children and young adults about the dangers of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, to encourage physicians and pharmacists to alert parents to

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

the inherent dangers of these drugs and to encourage parents to keep medications out of their children's reach."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. House Resolution 118 was brought to me by doctors in our area talking about the use of drugs that children are getting out of their parents' medicine cabinets and how this has become such a problem in the United States, that there are more deaths caused by overdose from prescription drugs than there are by other serious drugs that we address, such as cocaine and heroine, so this is a huge issue. And what this Resolution does is just to address the education of awareness throughout the public as to this problem and to address the issue with parents and with children to be on the lookout for this. There are actually parties being held by kids in grammar school and high school throughout Illinois where they throw the prescription drugs on the table that they have brought from their parents' medicine cabinets and they walk away with them."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady now moves adoption of House Resolution 118. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 118 is adopted. House Resolution 95, Representative Reitz. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 95, offered by Representative Reitz, creates the task force on the licensure of nomadic (sic-naturopathic) physicians to (i) evaluate whether the standards of medical education and training are adequate to protect the public and (ii) make recommendations as to the



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

extent to which regulation of the physicians will benefit the health of the citizens of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Randolph."

Reitz: "The Clerk did an excellent job explaining the Bill (sic-Resolution) and that's exactly what it does. And I'd appreciate your support."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves House... adoption of House Resolution 95. This will require a vote. All in favor vote 'aye'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes', 1 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. The Resolution is declared adopted. House Resolution 121 appears on page 11 of the Calendar, Representative Froehlich. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 121, offered by Representative Froehlich, urges the City of Chicago to cease its attempts to collect a personal property lease transaction tax on noncity residents in suburban areas."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Froehlich."

Froehlich: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue came up and it hit the newspapers about a month ago about a tax that the City of Chicago wants to require rental car agencies throughout the suburban area to collect. And this Resolution would simply say they should not be collecting a tax on noncity residents who live in the suburbs."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 121. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 121 is adopted."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

House Resolution 122 appears on page 11 of the Calendar, Representative Schmitz. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 122, offered by Representative Schmitz, recognizes February 26, 2009, as Elgin Day in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Schmitz."

Schmitz: "Thank you, Speaker. I would ask for the immediate adoption of this Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "I would do it retroactively if I could. House Resolution 121... 122, the Gentleman moves its adoption. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 123 appears on page 11 of the Calendar. Assistant Minority Leader Osmond."

Osmond: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is urging the Illinois Tollway Authority to begin a study to determine the feasibility of renting the signs that appear on the tollway."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 123. This will require a vote. All in favor vote 'aye'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting... Excuse me. The Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for hitting the light late. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "She indicates she will."

Black: "Representative, can the tollway currently rent signs?"

Osmond: "No, Sir."

Black: "They cannot? I mean, they're specifically prohibited by law?"

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Osmond: "I've been told that there's some federal requirements that need to be reviewed to see if they're allowed to do it."

Black: "Rather than a Resolution, maybe we could just change the law."

Osmond: "Well, that might be the next step."

Black: "Okay. Well, I was just under the impression that Governor... former Governor Blagojevich rented out these signs all the time. Now, maybe I was mistaken."

Osmond: "I don't believe so."

Black: "Well, I thought he rented some to himself. Didn't he have his name on some?"

Osmond: "I don't know if we've invoiced them yet."

Black: "Oh, that may be the subject of another Resolution. Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "Okay. We have... Representative Davis is seeking recognition. For what... what reason does the Gentleman from Cook arise?"

Davis, W.: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "She indicates she will."

Davis, W.: "Representative, one of the things that some of the folks out in the south suburbs have asked with regard to the tollways and their signs is the possibility of putting up the signs that advertise at exits: hotels, restaurants and things of that nature. Is what you're... or does what you're proposing incorporate that at all or have some discussion relative to that?"

Osmond: "When I talked to the Tollway Authority they said that they would still have specific restrictions on who could

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

use the signs, but my whole purpose in doing this was to get the revenue to the Tollway Authority and use this as a form of that, rather than have political, you know, officeholders on the signs."

Davis, W.: "Well, correct me if I'm wrong and I'm not on the Transportation Committee in any way, but the blue signs that advertise at exits on the interstates, don't the companies that advertise on those signs, don't they pay to advertise on those signs?"

Osmond: "Yes, they do. Yes."

Davis, W.: "So, is there any way, and I know, again, this is a Resolution which encourages something and doesn't necessarily mandate it, but is there any way to... because... and the reason we bring it up is when you think about why they do it on the interstates is to promote, you know, tourism, encouraging people that if they are going to stop, this is what you have available. But for some reason the Tollway Authority doesn't see the need to do that kind of thing."

Osmond: "Well, I'm not sure if it was the need. If... from what my discussion was, is that there was some requirements through the Federal Government that put restrictions and they were going to go back and see how strict these were before they went any further. And that's why I did the Resolution."

Davis, W.: "Okay. Well, when you're having this dialogue with the Tollway Authority about what your Resolution does, if there's any way that you can ask or bring up the issue, because if we're talking about revenue, which is what I

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

understand your Resolution is talking about, revenue, here is yet another opportunity for some revenue for restaurants, hotels, that may want to advertise, that if you get off the tollway, say at interstate 294 and Halsted Avenue in Harvey and South Holland in the south suburbs where I am, that there are hotels, that there are restaurants, there are places where a weary traveler can stop and eat and rest if they choose, but without that knowledge and not without that advertisement, they won't be able to do that. So, I would just ask if you could indulge me and at least bring that up into the conversation. And while I'm talking about the south suburbs in particular, we know that we're talking about other parts of the state where the tollway system exists as well. So I would ask that you at least try to bring that up in your conversation. I'd appreciate it."

Osmond: "I will. Thank you very much."

Davis, W.: "Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 123. All in favor vote 'yes'... excuse me. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 123 is adopted. House Resolution 126, Representative Hernandez. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 126, offered by Representative Hernandez, designates the month of February 2009, as Library Lovers Month in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Hernandez."

Hernandez: "Thank you, Speaker. House Resolution 126 just simply designates the month of February 2009 as Library

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Lovers Month in the State of Illinois. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 126 and on that, the Gentleman from Cook, Representative Davis. The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 126. All in favor 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and House Resolution 126 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, House Resolution 156, Representative Washington. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 156, offered by Representative Washington, designates March 12, 2009, as World Kidney Day in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Washington."

Washington: "Mr. Speaker, thank you. This is such a... Mr. Speaker, thank you. This is a very, very simple Resolution and it deals with World Kidney Day. That's something that is a problem throughout the state and the country and I ask for favorable consideration and of submission."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves pass... moves adoption of House Resolution 156. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 156 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, House Resolution 163 appears on the Calendar, Representative Coulson."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 163, offered by Representative Coulson, creates a task force to study local government development standards and processes and their effect on the watershed, wetlands, and flood plains."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Coulson."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Coulson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This creates a task force to be looking at property development issues in local areas to help eliminate some of the issues of local flooding and other environmental issues. And I'd appreciate an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 163. This will require a Roll Call vote. All in favor vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Representative Zalewski, Representative Davis, Burns, do you wish to be recorded? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present', House Resolution 163 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, House Resolution 175, Representative Ramey. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 175, offered by Representative Ramey, congratulates the staff, faculty and alumni and students of Elgin Community College on the 60th anniversary of the institution. Proclaims May 22, 2009, as Elgin Community College Day in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Mautino: "Gentleman from DuPage, Representative Ramey."

Ramey: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like the adoption of the Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves the adoption of House Resolution 175. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 175 is adopted. The Gentleman from DuPage has House Resolution 176, Representative Ramey."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Ramey: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Resolution 176 would designate this week of May 3 through the 9, 2009, as Vasculitis Awareness Week in the State of Illinois, in order to help educate the public about vasculitis diseases and the need for research funding. I'd ask for its adoption."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 176. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 195, Representative Chapa LaVia. Read the Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 195, offered by Representative Chapa LaVia, urges the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide technical and financial services to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Chapa LaVia."

Chapa LaVia: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the General Assembly. This Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans was kind of created out of legislation in the 96th General Assembly. They're doing a fine job and I request the adoption of the House Resolution. Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady moves adoption of House Resolution 195. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and House Resolution 195 is adopted. Mr. Clerk, on the Calendar appears House Resolution 177, Mr. Brady. There is an Amendment, Mr. Clerk, to House Resolution 177. Representative Brady on Floor Amendment 4."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just move to adopt Floor Amendment #4 to House Resolution 177."



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of Floor Amendment 4. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. Floor Amendment 4 is adopted. On the Resolution, Representative Brady."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Resolution 177 creates the Funeral and Burial Pre-arrangement Investigation Task Force to investigate and study the reasons for losses of Pre-need Funeral Trust Funds of Illinois funeral directors and any and other funeral and burial pre-need funding plans and investments offered in the State of Illinois. It directs the task force to make recommendations so oversight and operation of all funeral and burial pre-need programs offered regardless of funding method and to consider development of new licensing and continuing education components to protect the consumer and the industry. And I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution 177, as amended. And on that, Representative Durkin."

Durkin: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "He indicates he will."

Durkin: "I am a cosponsor on this Resolution, but could you just educate the men and women of this chamber what has prompt... what prompted you to go down this road and have this Resolution prepared and passed by the House?"

Brady: "Thank you very much, Representative. Briefly, the adoption and purpose for this Resolution is to study the problems that have occurred in Illinois in pre-need funeral

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

funding, in particular, by means of either trusts or also insurance as a funding mechanism in the State of Illinois. There has been numerous problems through the Illinois Funeral Directors Association Trust Fund with losses to consumers, as well as insurance that has been involved in practicing in the State of Illinois in pre-arrangement services and also to look at the cemetery industry as well as their trusting programs and potential licensing requirements for those who sell pre-need in the State of Illinois. That is the reason why."

Durkin: "What entity in State Government is responsible for overseeing the cemeteries and, you know, the funeral directors and the various interests that are related to those bodies?"

Brady: "Presently, from the cemetery side of things, it would be the Comptroller's Office; from the funeral home side, the licensing requirements of funeral directors and embalmers is through the Department of Professional Regulation at this point."

Durkin: "Could you explain to me the makeup of the task force?"

Brady: "The makeup of the task force? The makeup of the task force would have Representatives from the House, from Professional Regulation and from the Comptroller's Office as well, and would have the opportunity then to seek testimony from stakeholders in the industry from pre-need funeral and burial arrangements."

Durkin: "And when is the report to be completed and sent back to the House of Representatives?"

Brady: "I believe by the end of 2009."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Durkin: "Great. Thank you very much."

Speaker Mautino: "Further questions? Representative Bassi."

Bassi: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "Indicates he will."

Bassi: "Representative, I had a call with a concern on this particular issue from a cemetery director in my area who was very concerned with the previous Bill that you had been working on. They were adamantly opposed to it, apparently. Can you tell me if that discrepancy has been worked out?"

Brady: "At this point in time, Representative, it remains to be a work in progress. This is the task force. This is separate from other legislation that I have drafted. However, I kid you not, the funeral and cemetery side of pre-need needs to be reviewed and investigated. And we're going to start by means of this task force, I hope."

Bassi: "Do you have people from both the funeral and the cemetery organizations on the task force? Are they.. will they be included?"

Brady: "They are not on the task force. They will be sought after to give testimony and to answer questions and inquiries."

Bassi: "They're... they're not on the task force at all?"

Brady: "They are not. They are government officials, Representative, from the Comptroller's Office, from the House of Representatives, and from the Department of Professional Regulation."

Bassi: "And why are you recommending that you.. to move this from the Comptroller's Office to the Department of Professional Regulation?"

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Brady: "I'm sorry, I didn't hear what..."

Bassi: "Why are you moving it from the Comptrol... under the au... from the auspices of the Comptroller to the Department of Regulation? Why are moving... recommending the movement of that?"

Brady: "Well, this task force does not do that. It does not move that at all. As I answered Representative Durkin's question, and that was that he asked who was responsible in the licensing area. From the cemetery side, it is the Comptroller's Office; from the funeral and embalmer licensing side, it is Professional Regulation of where we are licensed from."

Bassi: "Ah. Got it."

Brady: "But we are not doing that aspect thing. We're not changing the role of those individuals through this task force. That's not the purpose."

Bassi: "Okay. Thank you very much, Representative."

Brady: "Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield? Again, Representative, this is a Resolution and not legislation, correct?"

Brady: "That is correct."

Black: "You're setting up a task force to study what all of you in this chamber should be very interested in. The last article I read, the Illinois Funeral Directors Association Pre-Need Burial Trust Fund has and, I don't want to use the wrong word, lost or whatever, but it is in desperate

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

financial shape. How many millions do we think the Pre-Need Funeral Fund is short?"

Brady: "Well, depending on who you talk to, Representative. It could be upwards to 40 million or more."

Black: "Forty million dollars short. And I think your task force just simply says, what happened and how do we correct it, and where do we go from here? I have a funeral director in my district that estimates his losses alone in the Pre-Need Burial Program at a million dollars. I have constituents calling me who wonder if their pre-need burial program will, in fact, be paid as they get older. You know, I think your task force is of vital importance to everyone in this chamber and to everyone in the State of Illinois who may have purchased a pre-need burial program. And now it appears the money they paid and the guarantee they were given may be worthless. The money may be gone. And this has been, quite frankly, other than the Springfield State Journal-Register, this is not receiving the statewide press. I think I have read an article or two in the Tribune. This is a potential scandal of multi millions of dollars and your constituents and my constituents could very well be the victims of whatever has transpired. And all you're doing is setting up a task force, as I understand it, to try and find out what happened and just what is the extent and what may be a problem that all of us in this chamber are going to be subjected to by constituents if we don't get to the bottom of it. And I congratulate you for what you're doing. I hope this report is done quickly and efficiently and

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

thoroughly, and we can begin to take a look at something that has been overshadowed by other scandals in Illinois. But this has dire consequences for people in my district and I daresay people in everyone's district in this chamber. I urge an 'aye' vote on your Resolution."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Brady to close."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To Representative Black's comments, I would just simply try and emphasize to you, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, that whether it's pre-need trust and funeral insurance or other funding mechanisms, as well as a review of the Burial Practice Acts of Pre-Need in the State of Illinois, in the funeral trust alone some 49 thousand Illinoisans have these accounts and have had these accounts marked down and altered. So, I would simply ask for a 'yes' vote to move forward."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman moves adoption of House Resolution, as amended, 177. This requires a Roll Call vote. All in favor vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is now open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. The Resolution is adopted. The Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black is seeking recognition."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have an inquiry of the Chair."

Speaker Mautino: "State your inquiry, Sir."

Black: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What is the status of House Bill 4438?"

Speaker Mautino: "I'll get that for you right now."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Black: "Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "Hold on a second. Clerk, what is the status of House Bill 4438?"

Clerk Mahoney: "House Bill 4438 was filed today."

Black: "Has... has House Bill 4438 been read a first time?"

Speaker Mautino: "Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Mahoney: "No Perfunctory Session has been held today to read in House Bills."

Black: "Can you read House Bill 4438, Mr. Speaker? Would that be a request in order?"

Speaker Mautino: "Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Bill 4438, offered by Representative Black, a Bill for an Act concerning compensation. First Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Mautino: "Any further requests, Mr. Black?"

Black: "Yes, Mr. Speaker, let me renew my request, though. What... what now is the status of House Bill 4438?"

Speaker Mautino: "The Bill has been read a first time."

Black: "I assume that means it has been assigned to the Rules Committee, correct, or will be?"

Speaker Mautino: "It... Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Bill 4438 will be assigned to the House Rules Committee."

Speaker Mautino: "Yes, it has, Sir."

Black: "Well, thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, in all due respect to you and Members of the Body, under House Rule 18(g), I would move for the discharge of House Bill 4438 from the House Rules Committee. Under House Rule 54(a), subsection (2), all Motions are to be assigned Standard

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Debate and I wish to debate my Motion to Discharge. Upon the conclusion of the debate I would ask for a recorded vote on the Motion to Discharge. Pursuant to Rule 49, any vote shall be by a record vote whenever five Representatives, I'm joined by five Representatives on my side of the aisle, to so request. So I have made my Motion and it has been filed in writing, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I object to the Gentleman's Motion."

Speaker Mautino: "Representative Black, there's been an objection by the Majority Leader to your Motion."

Black: "Well, may I say I'm shocked and appalled that she would object to House Bill 4438. I don't know that she's read it, but pursuant to my rules I would like to debate the rationale for my Motion. It isn't made just to waste time. I don't have that much time left at my age. Let me just tell you, Ladies and Gentleman of the House, what this Bill does. With less than six weeks left in the Legislative Session and looking at a multi-billion dollar hole in the budget and tax increases have been suggested, tax increases on working men and women, tax increases on gasoline and that even though it's covered under collective bargaining, the Governor's budget proposal asks AFSCME and Teamster Union members to take 'x' number of days as unpaid days of work. So all this Bill does is to say we need to lead by example. The Bill would simply say all of us are due a cost of living pay raise in this next fiscal year of approximately 3 percent. We filed... I filed in good faith



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

House Bill 4438 today that would say, and I had the Bill filed previously, but it was never... never given a hearing. The cost-of-living pay raises to Legislators and elected state officials for Fiscal Year 2010 should be denied, should be rejected. We can go one year without a cost of living raise. It will not balance the budget. It will not significantly reduce the billion plus... the billions of dollars in debt, but it says we're willing to make that sacrifice that the working men and women of the State of Illinois have been asked to make. We will forego for Fiscal Year 2010 our cost-of-living pay raise. I think it's reasonable. I think it makes us lead by example. I think it's something we need to be on record as doing. You can't go to people and ask them for more taxes and you can't ask labor members, working men and women, who, by the way, unless they reopen their contract, it doesn't even apply to them. But we can lead by example. You can vote for this Bill and then you can go home and say I voted against the cost-of-living pay raise for myself for 2010. Here's your chance to do it. Here's your chance to mean it. Here's your chance to take some meaningful action. If you block this legislation under a parliamentary maneuver, then don't go home and tell your friends and families, who are struggling to make ends meet, that you will not share in their sacrifice. That's all the Bill does. I can't imagine why anybody would object to it. I can't imagine why anybody would vote against it. I would like to have that debate and at some point, Mr. Speaker, I'm... if I have to, I'll make the Motion to overturn (sic-overrule) the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Chair. I hope I don't have to. I hope common sense prevails."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Lee, Representative Mitchell."

Mitchell, J.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, for all this talk about ushering in new ethical standards, it sure seems like we're doing business the same old way. It'd be wrong to skirt an issue that goes to the heart of the problem with our State Government, and that's a systematic lack of accountability. I'd like to say this to Governor Quinn and the Democrats in this chamber. In these economic times, you're going to ask families to dig deeper into their pockets to pay higher taxes. You're going to ask the people of Illinois to make sacrifices, yet when you're provided an opportunity to sacrifice yourself you close the door on the discussion. Without action, we will receive a pay raise. Without action, the General Assembly will benefit while citizens of Illinois suffer. Without action, you'll be sweeping an opportunity, to show the people of Illinois that we're with you, right under the rug. This is business as usual and you ought to be ashamed of yourselves. Representative Black, I think it's a great Bill and I'd certainly like to be a cosponsor as soon as you get people to understand that common sense has to prevail. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from Brown, Representative Tracy, you have the floor."

Tracy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise in support of allowing this House a very important piece of legislation

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

to move forward. I believe we can make this happen and should make it happen. We're in a very tough situation. Our state is facing record high unemployment rates, people are facing losing their homes, wondering how to purchase food, and how to keep... and employers are concerned about how to keep their doors open. Our state has a mountain of debt and it's faced the highest deficit that ever... since its creation. We can't pay our Medicaid bills on time and we hurt everyone in this state because of it. Yet, we want to talk about higher income taxes, higher sales tax, higher gasoline tax, more taxes and fees on Illinois families, seniors, and employers. We even mentioned on the table possible state furloughs for workers of our state. We mention higher contributions for state employees and we once again talk about not funding properly the pension obligations of our state workers. We're starving our universities, yet the level of our hypocrisy goes on and on because we will automatically receive a pay raise. Whether you call it a COLA or whatever, it's 3 percent that will come out of the state budget. We cannot hide from that and we have to face our constituent with that fact. Raises, COLAs, are given on merit and ability to pay. No doubt, our state does not have the ability to pay. We have to face it and I think we can do something about it and it's time to act on this. So, as I said, I urge that this Motion be given valid consideration."

Speaker Mautino: "The Lady from DuPage, Representative Senger is seeking recognition."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Senger: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Right now our employment rate is close to one in ten. So if you think about it, look at the people in the room. If we weren't here with this right now, the normal person in Illinois, close to one in ten, are without a job. So to ask for an automatic cost-of-living increase for anybody is pathetic, if you look at how many people are out of work. We've lost over 200 thousand jobs in the past year and we're now faced with a budget deficit that we're asking the public to pay for in taxes. This is something that, you know, I can't even begin to think of why we would want to automatically increase a raise to ourselves without... without any discussion whatsoever, when we're asking the normal guy now without a job who is taking cuts and taking sacrifices and not putting food on his table, in many cases, to look at us to say we're going to get an automatic increase in our salaries. Rejecting this COLA and getting it off the table before budget discussions is the right thing to do and it's the prudent thing to do. So I would encourage us to have this debate."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Lake, Representative Sullivan."

Sullivan: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the Gentleman from Danville. Ladies and Gentlemen, the previous speaker just talked about unemployment. We have people in the gallery watching us; some of them may or may not be part of that 9.1 percent unemployment factor. Ladies, this is an... Ladies and Gentlemen, this is an outrage that we're even having this debate about an

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

increase in our pay at a time that 9.1 percent unemployment. It is an absolute outrage and it's time to put up or shut up in this gallery with regard to pay raises. It is time to vote on this and vote your conscience and let us stop this in a time of desperate economic need. I support the Gentleman's Resolution (sic-Motion)."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Marion, Representative Cavaletto."

Cavaletto: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I represent a district that includes three counties that have unemployment rates higher than the state average. I fight every day to keep their businesses a reason to stay in the district, while they try to find a way to keep from laying off people. Pretty soon in this district, a Democrat Majority will ask the constituents in my districts that still actually have jobs to hand over more of their hard-earned money to help pay for mistakes of the past. The medium per capita income in Salem, Illinois, the city where I live and work, \$17,235. How can this Body or any State Government Body with a record as poor as this one ask for a tax increase to help pad Illinois politicians' paychecks. It's a shame. I can only hope that you, in the Majority, will finally think of the people you have hurt through reckless economic policies over the last decade and reject this pay raise for yourself, when you're asking people who already have so little for so much. Thank you."

Speaker Mautino: "Further comments? The Gentleman from Crawford, Representative Eddy."

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Eddy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, this is a no-brainer. If you are interested in a pay raise at a time when the people of this state are facing high unemployment, if you think that there should be a secret cost-of-living adjustment made so that you can get more money, then you vote to sustain the objection. Go ahead. Go ahead and tell the people in your district that you think it's okay for a COLA to quietly sneak through. But if you want to tell the people of the State of Illinois and in your district that you want to do something about the fact that there's going to be an automatic pay raise for Legislators when we can't pay school districts to educate special education kids or pay for transportation, then you go ahead and support... go ahead and support the Leader's Motion. But you're telling the people of your district quite simply that you could care less about the fact that this is going to be an automatic pay raise. And deeper than that, you're... you're sustaining an effort to keep the Bill, to keep the legislation to allow an open debate on the issue hidden, hidden from the people of the State of Illinois, hidden from the people who are going to pay for the pay raise in the form of a COLA, that we're not willing to discuss in an open government forum. Shame on you. There are people who cannot pay their rent. There are people that cannot buy food. This state cannot make payments to the human service providers or school districts, and we're not willing to allow the open debate on an issue for a COLA for the Legislators? Where's the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

ethics? Where's the transparency? You talk a good game.  
Let's see if you walk your talk."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative  
Dunkin is seeking recognition."

Dunkin: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Mautino: "He indicates he will."

Dunkin: "Representative, do you have any... do you have any idea  
or how many individuals did not accept their pay increase  
over the last, let's say, six or seven years? Let's say  
they... in other words they said, you know, I don't want the  
pay raise or that portion that was increased over, let's  
say seven to ten years. Any numbers on that?"

Black: "Representative, I would not have access to those  
numbers. I know a lot of people said they didn't. I can  
show you the canceled checks of the money I gave back, but  
I can't speak for any of my colleagues. The easiest thing  
in the world to do is say I didn't take it. And if you  
don't have a press, you know, watching you and you don't  
have the canceled checks or whatever, I have no idea. A  
lot of people say they don't take it. My guess is having  
been here a long time, more say they don't take it than  
actually reject it."

Dunkin: "Is that right?"

Black: "I think so."

Dunkin: "Why do you think that, Mr. Representative?"

Black: "Well, I don't think... I don't think it takes a degree  
from Harvard to figure that out. I think all of us know  
that this is not the time to accept a 3 percent cost of  
living increase. But you have certain expenses. I don't

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

know your family expenses. I know what mine are. My children are grown. My expenses aren't as high as they were 10 or 15 years ago. I know what I'm going to do. But I'm... I'm... all I'm saying is this, this Bill should be allowed a full debate, a full hearing and a vote on the merits of the Bill. If you don't agree with not taking the COLA for only Fiscal 2010, you're free to vote 'no'. But the way this is structured, a lot of people will leave this chamber and say, well, I agree, I'm not going to take the COLA. Whether they do or not, I would have no way of knowing that. But when you stifle the ability to have a full and fair debate on the Bill, I don't know if this Bill would pass. I haven't done a Roll Call. And let me tell you this, Representative, in all sincerity, this isn't some gimmick on my part. I filed a Bill earlier this Session to abolish the Compensation Review Board. That's the way it was when I came down here. If you wanted a raise, you dropped in a Bill, you got cosponsors and you voted 'yea' or 'nay' on your raise. We don't do that anymore. We have the Compensation Review Board where you can take what I call a back door pay increase. I know Representative Durkin also had legislation filed earlier this year to change how the Compensation Review Board and our cost of living would be accepted or rejected by a vote of the Members. But, no, I don't have figures on that. I wish I did, but I just wouldn't have access to that."

Dunkin: "So, Representative, is this about a Bill being called or getting to the real issue of the Compensation Review Act itself?"



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Black: "Well, the issue before..."

Dunkin: "Which is it? I'm hearing a couple arguments this afternoon."

Black: "Sure. The issue before us at this time is, I believe, the Bill should be discharged from Rules and given a debate on the House Floor. That's what the issue is before us at this point."

Dunkin: "Are there any other Bills that you see... should merit discharge as well?"

Black: "I have a whole page of them. You can look in your Calendar. I think I have eight or nine of them. Most of them are reform measures that I absolutely am amazed were never even assigned to committee, which is in abject opposition to what you heard and I heard on the first day of our meeting. All Bills and Constitutional Amendments would be assigned to a committee. I have one that changes how we redistrict the state, absolutely a reform measure. I have a Constitutional Amendment that would change how we fund education in Illinois, absolutely a reform measure. They were never assigned to committee. I have a recall Constitutional Amendment, most of you are for that. We voted on it before and it cleared the chamber, wasn't even allowed to be sent to committee to be heard. So, yes, I have other Bills and Amendments on the discharge Calendar that I think should be heard and should be voted on; and I don't know how you felt about the recall Amendment when we voted on it before, but I filed it so that we didn't have to go through what we went through for the last six years. For some reason can't even be assigned to committee to be

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

debated. Again, I don't know whether it would have passed committee; don't know whether it would have passed the floor. I assume it would have been, but wasn't given that opportunity."

Dunkin: "Thank you for the clarification, Representative Black."

Black: "You're more than welcome, Sir."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black, has made a Motion to discharge committee which requires unanimous consent. The Majority Leader of the House, Representative Currie, objected and therefore the Motion fails. Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black."

Black: "Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and by the way, I do appreciate the fact that you let us, under House Rules, try and make our point. I do appreciate that. I've also been here when we weren't given that opportunity and I appreciate your fairness in the Chair. Ladies and Gentlemen, I met with several Service Employees International Union members in my office today. You've all read the headlines. If... if... unless we can come up with some budget in the next 30/35 days, some of their insurance premiums will jump 445 percent. Now, do you really think that a person making \$30 thousand a year for the State of Illinois can absorb that kind of an insurance payment increase? Are we going to have them take four or five days off without pay? That's up to collective bargaining. I told those members in my office that I would do what I could to see that we experienced the... I... two in tears.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Now, all I said, I had a Bill that I think would put us on a level playing field as best we could. That wasn't allowed a hearing and I would try again today to do what I think we should do by our leadership example. I thought Governor Quinn, earlier, if I understood him correctly, said he would not take his cost-of-living agreement. I think all of us could do the same if we could debate the Bill and vote on the Bill. I think it would pass, but I don't know that. I'm extremely disappointed, but I understand the Majority Leader's objection. But I think you should be as disappointed as I am that we can't take the lead saying, only for Fiscal 2010 we will forego and ask all constitutional elected officeholders as well that they forego a 2.8 percent cost-of-living agreement when we are in the kind of financial shape that we're in and when the Governor has asked, and he inherited a terrible situation, but he's asking employees to take unpaid days and increase their contribution to their pension and increase their insurance payment, but I don't think he, in his wildest nightmare, ever thought it would be a 445 percent increase. So, Mr. Speaker, I certainly take no satisfaction. I wish the Lady would withdraw her objection. I doubt that will happen, so under Rule 57(a) I would simply move to appeal the ruling of the Chair, let there be a recorded vote. I think House Bill 4438, for all of the reasons some of us have tried to expand on today, should be released from the House Rules Committee, let us vote on it, let us take a stand, and let our constituents know what we intend to do with the raise we will otherwise

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

get very quietly and it's what I consider to be a backhanded pay raise. And I don't think that's right in this day and age."

Speaker Mautino: "The Gentleman from Vermilion has moved to appeal the ruling of the Chair and the question is, 'Shall the Chair be sustained?' All in favor vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. Voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. The Chair, with a vote of 64 'yes', 50 'no', 0 voting 'present', the Chair is sustained. Mr. Clerk, committee cancelations."

Clerk Mahoney: "The following committees that were to meet today have been canceled: Public Policy & Accountability for Education was meeting at 1:15 and 2:00 p.m., that committee has been canceled. A committee for tomorrow, Youth and Family at 10:00 a.m. has been canceled as well as Homeland Security that was previously canceled."

Speaker Mautino: "And now, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, Representative Currie moves the House stand adjourned until Thursday, April 23, at the hour of 12:00 p.m. All in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'yesses' have it and the House stands adjourned."

Clerk Mahoney: "One additional cancelation. The Infrastructure Committee that was to meet tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. has been canceled. Infrastructure meeting at 10:30 tomorrow on Thursday, has been canceled. House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction and Reading of House Bills-First Reading. House Bill 4437, offered by Representative Black, a Bill for an Act concerning

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

compensation. House Committee Reports. Representative Osterman, Chairperson from the Committee on Labor, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 223; 'do pass Standard Debate' is Senate Bill 43; 'recommends be adopted' is House Joint Resolution 31. Representative Mendoza, Chairperson from the Committee on International Trade & Commerce, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'recommends be adopted' is House Resolution 55. Representative Franks, Chairperson from the Committee on State Government Administration, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 51, Senate Bill 206, Senate Bill 1333, Senate Bill 1472, Senate Bill 1538, Senate Bill 1592; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' is Senate Bill 1737; 'recommends be adopted' is House Resolution 43, House Resolution 59, House Joint Resolution 37, House Resolution 152 and House Resolution 186. Representative Ryg, Chairperson from the Committee on Disability Services, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 40. Representative Holbrook, Chairperson from the Committee on Environment & Energy, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 125. Representative Boland, Chairperson from the Committee on Higher Education, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on April 22, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' is Senate Bill 204, Senate Bill 325, Senate Bill 1453, Senate Bill 1624, and Senate Bill 1883. Senate Bills-Second Reading. Senate Bill 214, offered by Rep... Correction. Senate Bills-First Reading. On the Order of Sen... Senate Bills-introduction and First Reading is Senate Bill 214, offered by Representative Pritchard, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. Senate Bill 246, offered by Representative Burke, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 264, offered by Representative Mautino, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 271, offered by Representative Biggins, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate Bill 574, offered by Representative Senger, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 1274, offered by Representative Pritchard, a Bill for an Act concerning courts. Senate Bill 1443, offered by Representative Black, a Bill for an Act concerning professional regulation. Senate Bill 1481, offered by Representative Coulson, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. Senate Bill 1482, offered by Representative Winters, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. Senate Bill 1535, offered by Representative Hatcher, a Bill for an Act concerning public health.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

43rd Legislative Day

4/22/2009

Senate Bill 1648, offered by Representative Brady, a Bill for an Act in relation to public employee benefits. Senate Bill 1841, offered by Representative Pritchard, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. Senate Bill 1948, offered by Representative Biggins, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate Bill 1971, offered by Representative Senger, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. Senate Bill 2014, offered by Representative Pritchard, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Senate Bill 2178, offered by Representative Wait, a Bill for an Act concerning plain language. Senate Bill 2214, offered by Representative Pritchard, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Senate Bill 2224, offered by Representative Senger, a Bill for an Act concerning aging. And Senate Bill 2289, offered by Representative Coulson, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. This has been the First Reading and introduction of these Senate Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."