

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

1st Legislative Day

8/29/2017

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PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Sixteenth Special Session of the Senate of the 100th General Assembly will please come to order. Mr. Secretary, Communications from the Secretary of State.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Letter dated August 28th, 2017.

Dear Secretary Anderson - Enclosed please find a copy of Proclamation No. 2017-180, filed in my office on August 28th, 2017, by Governor Bruce Rauner, calling for a Special Session of the Illinois Senate, 100th General Assembly, to begin at 12 o'clock noon on August 29th, 2017. Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the notification letter and Proclamation for Members of the Illinois Senate.

Sincerely, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

(Secretary reads Proclamation No. 2017-180)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The Senate of the 100th General Assembly is convened in its Sixteenth Special Session. Under the practice of this Body since the 88th General Assembly, the rules adopted in the 100th General Assembly and its officers and committees are in effect for the continuous period of the 100th General Assembly, including any Special Session. There are two organizational resolutions that will be adopted today. These resolutions create a Senate Committee of five to wait upon the Governor and create a Senate Committee of three to approve Journals for the Senate for all days of the Sixteenth Special Session. Mr. Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolutions 1 and 2, offered by Senator Hunter.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

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Mr. Secretary, Senate Resolution No. 1.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution No. 1, offered by Senator Hunter.

(Secretary reads SR No. 1)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Hunter moves to suspend the rules for the purposes of the immediate adoption of Senate Resolution No. 1. All those in favor will say Aye. All opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Hunter now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 1. All those in favor will say Aye. All opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Mr. Secretary, Senate Resolution No. 2.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution No. 2, offered by Senator Hunter.

(Secretary reads SR No. 2)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Hunter moves to suspend the rules for the purposes of the immediate adoption of Senate Resolution No. 2. All those in favor will say Aye. All opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Hunter now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 2. All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Amanda Vinicky of WTTW-TV has requested permission for -- to photograph and to video. Seeing no objection, the request is granted. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, can I have your attention, please? Senator Syverson, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I rise for a purpose of a motion. Mr. President, Members of the

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Senate, in accordance with the Illinois Republican Caucus practice and traditions, a Republican Caucus was held Friday, June 30th, for the purpose of electing a Minority Leader to fill the vacancy created by Senator Radogno's resignation. As of June 30th, 2017's caucus, the caucus, by acclamation, elected Republican Senator Bill Brady as the Illinois Senate Minority Leader, effective upon Radogno's resignation on July 1st, 2017, at 5 p.m., through the remainder of the 100th General Assembly. An official notification was filed with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Senate and other parties regarding the resignation of Christine Radogno from the Office of Senate Minority Leader and the election of Senator Brady to the office of {sic} Senate Republican Caucus. The official notification letter, co-authored with Caucus Dean, Dave Syverson, and Caucus Chair, Pam Althoff, has been submitted for inclusion in the Senate Journal. I hereby move that the Senate approve inclusion of the Senate Republican Caucus letter into the Senate Journal.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Syverson seeks leave of the Senate to journalize the letter co-authored with Republican Caucus Dean and Republican Caucus Chair. Leave is granted, and the letter will be journalized. Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President. I would also ask for unanimous consent on behalf of the Republican Members of the Senate to declare Senator Bill Brady Minority Leader of the Senate for the remainder of the 100th General Assembly.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Syverson requests unanimous consent on behalf of the

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Republican Members of the Senate to declare Senator Bill Brady the Minority Leader for remainder of the 100th General Assembly. Is leave granted? Leave is granted. Senator Bill Brady is declared Minority Leader for the remainder of the 100th General Assembly. Congratulations. The Chair recognizes Senator Bill Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you and the Governor for this special accommodation. Phil Draves say -- says I may be the only one ever to achieve this through a Special Session. So I -- I do appreciate that. While I appreciate that, I also realize I have big shoes to fill, and my predecessor Chris Radogno was a true leader and a champion, not just for this caucus, but for the Chamber and the people of Illinois. She would have been proud of today's moment, us coming together to pass historic education funding that will help every child and student in this State. What a great honor to have this today. It's a great honor to have my caucus trust -- entrust in me the responsibilities that this position holds. And for that, I will ever be humbled and -- and grateful. And to my Democratic colleagues, who I've really enjoyed getting to know even better and working with, not only through the education issue, but at NCSL, where we elected Toi to her new leadership position, I think there's a great deal we can accomplish collectively. No, I know there's a great deal we can accomplish more collectively than separately and I pledge to you that this caucus is here to ever serve the people of this State. They need our service no {sic} more than anything right now. So, with that, I just want to say thank you. I'm humbled to be in this position and God bless you all.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

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Senator Manar, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR MANAR:

For a point of personal privilege, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

State your point.

SENATOR MANAR:

If I could have everyone's attention on a matter specific to a constituent and a constituent family in the district that I represent here in Central Illinois. As many of you might be aware, a community in my district, Decatur, is mourning the loss of a fallen sailor. Logan Stephen Palmer from Decatur was an Interior Communications Electrician 3rd Class on the USS John S. McCain. In the early morning hours of Monday, August 21st, the ship was involved in a collision with an oil tanker in the waters near Singapore. Ten sailors on the McCain passed away. Logan Palmer was one of those sailors. He was twenty-three years old. Logan Palmer was a 2012 graduate of Sangamon Valley High School in Niantic and a 2015 graduate of Richland Community College in Decatur. As a teenager, he often talked about his desire to serve his country. He was an Eagle Scout and an active member of his church. And as a member of the U.S. Navy, he was proud to serve his country and he received a National Defense Service Medal for those efforts. And as a beloved son and brother, Logan Palmer was his family's pride and joy, who will be remembered as a loving and wonderful young man. I did not know Logan, but I do know many people in Decatur who know him and to say that this is a loss would be a complete understatement. I just ask that this Chamber and the Illinois Senate rise and observe a moment of silence for his service to our country. Thank you, Mr. President.

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PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Rose, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR ROSE:

May I also speak to the moment of silence? Mr. President, and Members of the Senate, I, too, represent Macon County. And when you hear of Senator Manar talking about the many people who've reached out to him who knew Logan, in fact, his family lives just down the street from my legislative aide for Macon County, Bev Offer. And so, as you can imagine, she has been a sounding board to some extent, during the -- the time in which they were waiting to find out what really happened. And I would simply add just a few items, if I may. That he was described as a great little brother to his older brothers and a cool -- cool big brother to his younger sister. He -- his family said that he cared for his shipmates and that they are incredibly proud of him in his service to our Navy and to our country. And so, if we would just say a prayer for their family, for him, for his family and friends, and for all the great men and women who are serving us today and our veterans. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

So will the Members and -- Members and people in the gallery please rise to observe a moment of silence? (Moment of silence observed) There being no further business to come before the Sixteenth Special Session, the Sixteenth Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned sine die. The Sixteenth Special Session stands adjourned.