



THIRTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1ST LEGISLATIVE DAY

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2017

12:05 O'CLOCK P.M.

NO. 1

[July 28, 2017]

**SENATE
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1st Legislative Day**

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The Senate met pursuant to proclamation of the Governor.
Senator Antonio Munóz, Chicago, Illinois, presiding.
Prayer by Rabbi Mendy Turen, Chabad Jewish Center of Springfield, Springfield, Illinois.
Senator Bennett led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

July 24, 2017

Honorable Tim Anderson
Secretary of the Senate
Room 401
Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Secretary Anderson:

Enclosed please find a copy of Proclamation No. 2017-174 through 2017-177, filed in my office on July 24, 2017, by Governor Bruce Rauner, calling for a Special Session of the 100th General Assembly, to begin at 12:00 Noon on July 26, 2017, July 27, 2017, July 28, 2017 and July 31, 2017.

A notice and accompanying Proclamation have been mailed today to each Member's office.

Sincerely,
s/Jesse White
JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State

STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
SPRINGFIELD, IL

PROCLAMATION 2017-176

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution establishes that providing a free, high-quality public education is a fundamental goal of the State; and

WHEREAS, honoring this fundamental goal has always been a primary concern of this administration; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Illinois depend on schools that are appropriately funded and start on-time; and

WHEREAS, many school districts depend on funds appropriated by the State and cannot operate throughout the full upcoming school year without those funds; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Illinois deserve adequate and equitable education funding regardless of their zip code; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly chose to make appropriations for education in its Fiscal Year 2018 budget contingent on passage of on revisions of the State's school funding formula; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly, in fact, passed a revised school funding formula in Senate Bill 1 on May 31, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, since Senate Bill 1 passed I have repeatedly requested the General Assembly to send it to my desk; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has ignored my repeated requests to send Senate Bill 1 for review; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has instead delayed for 54 days since it passed Senate Bill 1 by using an internal legislative maneuver to avoid presenting Senate Bill 1 to me; and

WHEREAS, until the General Assembly ends its procedural antics and sends me Senate Bill 1, I cannot consider it; and

WHEREAS, the acts of the General Assembly are creating an artificial crisis for school funding across the state; and

WHEREAS, this artificial crisis is causing an unnecessary atmosphere of statewide fear in the minds of parents, educators, and all involved with the State's education system; and

WHEREAS, this delay is unacceptable gamesmanship with the students of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education is required to begin making payments to school districts across the State by August 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, a new education funding formula must therefore be adopted by July 31, 2017, to ensure that school districts receive the money they need to open; and

WHEREAS, we must provide certainty to parents with school-age children, educators, and all Illinois citizens who care about education and the future of our State; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1 as passed by the General Assembly does not ensure fair funding and outcomes for all our children and failure to enact a school funding bill will negatively impact those children in need of a high-quality education and will have devastating and long-lasting ramifications for our state; and

WHEREAS, under Senate Bill 1, a single school district unfairly receives hundreds of millions of dollars in extra funding beyond the amounts received under the funding formula by the other 851 school districts in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, our State's current school funding formula is inadequate and inequitable for our children's education needs and has not been appropriately managed for decades; and

WHEREAS, this administration, through the Illinois State Board of Education and the bipartisan Illinois School Funding Reform Commission studied, at great length, the current disparity in school funding across the State and developed a framework for reforming the current school funding formula; and

WHEREAS, this administration, the Illinois State Board of Education and the bipartisan Illinois School Funding Reform Commission worked tirelessly to achieve what many other funding commissions have not: a comprehensive framework that aims to adequately and equitably fund our schools while prioritizing the needs of individual students; and

WHEREAS, both the General Assembly's behavior and the inequitable legislation they have propounded will prevent schools from opening, to the detriment of this State and Illinois families who trust and expect their children to be adequately and equitably educated on time; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution empowers the Governor to convene a special session of the General Assembly;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (b) of the Illinois Constitution, I, Governor Bruce Rauner, hereby call and convene the 100th General Assembly in a special session to commence at 12:00 noon on July 26, 2017, for the purpose of considering appropriate legislation to ensure that all school

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districts in Illinois are equitably and adequately funded to provide a high quality education for all Illinois students.

The Secretary of State shall take whatever reasonable steps are necessary to notify the members of the General Assembly of the purpose, date, and time set for convening this Special Session pursuant to 25 ILCS 15/3.

ISSUED July 24, 2017

s/Bruce Rauner
Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois

At the hour of 12:14 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced the Thirteenth Special Session stand adjourned until Saturday, July 29, 2017, at 12:00 o'clock noon, in perfunctory session, or until the call of the President.

[July 28, 2017]