# Senate Transcript

4th Legislative Day  
5/23/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0064</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0064</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0357</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0357</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0823</td>
<td>Motion</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0823</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0823</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB2682</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB2682</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB2924</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB2924</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0264</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0471</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0516</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0531</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0557</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB1864</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB2052</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB2135</td>
<td>Concurrence</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB2683</td>
<td>Recalled</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB2683</td>
<td>Third Reading</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HJR0001</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HJR0001</td>
<td>Resolution Offered</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Senate to Order-Senator Koehler 1
- Journal-Postponed 1
- Messages from the House 1
- Committee Reports 2
- Excused Absences Noted 2
- Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes 6
- Committee Reports 6
- Messages from the House 12
- Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes 12
- Messages from the House 12
- Committee Reports 13
- Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes 34
- Messages from the House 34
- Committee Reports 38
- Excused Absence Reinstated 40
- Committee Reports 42
4th Legislative Day

Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes
Messages from the House
Committee Reports
Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes
Committee Reports
Midnight
Messages from the House
Committee Reports
Messages from the House
Adjournment
The First Special Session of the 101st General Assembly will please come to order. Mr. Secretary, Reading and Approval of the Journal.

Senator Hunter.

Mr. President, I move to postpone the reading and approval of the Journal just read by the Secretary, pending arrival of the printed transcripts.

Senator Hunter moves to approve the Journals just read by the Secretary. There being no objection, so ordered. Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

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

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

Senate Bill 471.

Together with the following amendment which is attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Amendment 3 to Senate Bill 471.

Will the Committee on Assignments please come to the Senate Floor? Committee on Assignments, please come to the Senate Floor. Senator Muñoz in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Motion to Concur with House Amendment 3 to Senate Bill 471, Motion to Concur with House Amendments 3 and 4 to Senate Bill 2052, and Floor Amendment -- Floor Amendment 6 to House Bill 2924, and Senate Bill 2683. Signed, Senator Kimberly Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Cunningham, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

For an announcement, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Please proceed.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Mr. President, under 13-4 of the Senate Special Session Rules, the following Members are excused today: Senators Collins, Martwick, and McGuire. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

It will be noted for the record, Senator. Thank you. We'll now proceed to final action. Page 2 of the Calendar. 2924. Senator Steans seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 2924 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 2924. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor
amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 6, offered by Senator Steans.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Steans, on your amendment.

SENATOR STEANS:

Yes, this amendment becomes the bill and I'll speak to it on 3rd.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted.

Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

3rd Reading. On the Order of 3rd Reading, Mr. Secretary, read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 2924.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. We passed the cannabis legislation yesterday. This is the same bill with just two small changes. One, inadvertently, we had made it so that the RTA couldn't collect regular sales taxes on cannabis; we're fixing that. Second is that it adds that the licenses that
in the very narrow set of license, current dispensary owners that are allowed to relocate are only allowed to do so ninety days after the first wave of licenses are due to be issued are actually issued. So I would ask for your support on this as we send it -- this version over to the House instead. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Any discussion? Senator DeWitte, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR DeWITTE:

To the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR DeWITTE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Once again, I just want to thank the sponsor, Senator Steans, for her assistance and cooperation in moving through these fine-tuned parts. For the edification of my side of the aisle, this bill gets better with these amendments added. And I would urge an Aye vote. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Barickman, for what purpose you seek -- disregard.

Senator Steans, to close.

SENATOR STEANS:

Urge your Aye vote. Thanks.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

The question is, shall House Bill 2924 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. If we move to the next group of Senators and you have not yet voted, you may still come to the Floor to vote until
the voting is closed. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, and Plummer, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, and Tracy, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, and President Harmon, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Manar, Oberweis, Syverson, please come to the Floor to vote. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 44 voting Aye, 10 voting Nay, 0 voting 0 {sic}. House Bill 2924, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Senator Rose, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR ROSE:

I -- inquiry of the President, sir.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

State your inquiry.

SENATOR ROSE:

Mr. President, good to see you this morning, sir. Just want to make sure you're okay. It looked like you might have been sleeping a little bit over there. Do you need some caffeine? Can we get you a coffee, a Coke, anything like that? You okay?
Yeah, I'm okay. But thank you. I appreciate that.

SENATOR ROSE:
All right. No problem.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:
Thank you very much, Mr. President. The Senate Republicans would request an immediate caucus for thirty minutes in Room 212.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senate Republicans requesting a caucus for thirty minutes. That's always in order. Senate will stand in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENSE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

First {sic} Session, the 101st General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members on the Committee -- Assignments please report to the Senate Floor? Will Members on Committee on Assignments please report to the Senate Floor? Members of the Committee of {sic} Assignments. Senator Hunter in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HUNTER)

Senator Muñoz in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendment 1 to
4th Legislative Day 5/23/2020

Senate Bill 2683.
Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

We'll now proceed to Calendar -- Supplemental Calendar 1. Senate Bill 2052, motion to concur. Senator Castro. This is final action. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.
SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendments 3 and 4 to Senate Bill 2052.
Filed by Senator Castro.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Castro.
SENATOR CASTRO:

Thank you. House Bill -- sorry. Senate Bill 2052 provides extensions for six different TIF districts. This includes thirteen TIF districts across the State of Illinois. I will open it up to any questions.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Any discussion? Senator Righter, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

To the lady's motion, if I might.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield. Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Actually -- actually, to the lady's motion, if I might.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the motion, Senator.

SENATOR RIGHTER:
Unless she would like me to ask her questions? Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. As Members on our side and I think some on your side know, and certainly your staff and our staff are aware, the House of Representatives, in what I am sure was an unintentional oversight, left out a community that I represent from this bill. And so we have been working for the last couple of days to try to address that issue and believe we have it addressed. So even though this does not have my district in it, I am compelled to support my colleague, Senator Castro, and vote Aye. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Castro, to close.

SENATOR CASTRO:

Ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments 3 and 4 to Senate Bill 2052. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. If we move you -- to the next group, Senators, and you have not yet voted, you may still come to the Floor and vote until the voting's closed. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, and Crowe, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link, please come to the Floor to vote. Thank you.
Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, and Plummer, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, and Tracy, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, and President Harmon, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Fowler, Senator Cullerton, and Senator Oberweis, please come to the Floor to vote. Senator Sims. Senator Wilcox, please come to the Floor to vote. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 52 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 1 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments 3 and 4 to Senate Bill 2052, and the bill is declared passed. We'll continue on the Supplemental Calendar 1. Senate Bill 2683. Senator Righter. Senator Righter seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 2683 -- Senate Bill 2683 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill -- Senate Bill 2683. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by Senator Righter.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter, on your amendment.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen -- thank you very much, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Senate Amendment 1 carries language that would extend the City of Charleston's tax increment financing district. Be happy to answer any questions.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

There any discussion? All those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

3rd Reading. Now on the Order of 3rd Reading, Mr. Secretary, read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Bill 2683.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. As amended, Senate Bill 2683 carries language that would extend the City of Charleston's tax increment financing district. I want to thank the Senate President, Members of his caucus, and his staff, certainly Leader Brady and members of his staff, for the help in putting together a proposal that we can counter what I said earlier, was I'm sure the House's "unintentional oversight" in leaving the City of Charleston out of the omnibus bill that we just sent to the Governor's Office. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Majority Leader Lightford, what purpose do you seek recognition?
SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you, Mr. President. To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the bill.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, I rise in support of the gentleman's bill. I find it to be really important that we leave no community out when it comes to TIF and financing to help our communities with blighted areas. I'm glad we did have a vehicle. I wish it could have gone further, but hopefully this will be something that can help the City of Charleston and -- and Senator Righter. I encourage an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

No further discussion, Senator Righter, to close. Senator Righter, to close.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Really - Mr. President, thank you - my only regret is that the Majority Leader is not a hyphenated cosponsor on the bill after those comments. I -- I know we are trying to wrap up important matters. I thank the Members for their indulgence and their time on this matter for my district. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Question is, shall Senate Bill 2683 pass. All those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe, please come to the Floor. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, Glowiak Hilton. Senator
Aquino, Senator Harris, Senator Koehler, Senator Landek, Senator Oberweis, Weaver, Wilcox, and Mr. President. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 52 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 1 voting Present. Senate Bill 2683, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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

Mr. President – I am directed to inform the Senate -- House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

Senate Bill 531.

Together with the following amendment which is attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Amendment 3 to Senate Bill 531.


PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senate will stand in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

First Special Session will come to order. Will the Members on the Committee -- Assignments please come to the Senate Floor? Members of the Committee of (sic) Assignments. Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:
A Message from the House by Mr. Hollman, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

Senate Bill 516.

Together with the following amendments which are attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Amendments 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516.


PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Committee on Assignments will meet on the Senate Floor immediately. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Motion to Concur with House Amendment 3 to Senate Bill 531, Floor Amendment 1 to House Bill 2682, and Motion to Concur with House Amendments 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516.

Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Ladies and Gentlemen, just handed out, Supplemental Calendar No. 2. We will be going to Senate Bill 531, a motion to concur. Senator Bertino-Tarrant. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendment No. 3 to Senate Bill 531.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Bertino-Tarrant.

SENATOR BERTINO-TARRANT:

Thank you, Mr. President. This bill specifies the Will County board may enter into an agreement establishing a toll rate schedule for a period not to exceed ninety-nine years as determined by the county board. And I ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Senator Righter, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Will the sponsor yield, please, Mr. President?

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Senator Bertino-Tarrant, can you just -- I'm completely unfamiliar with this. Can you just, for the record, lay out -- I mean -- I mean, where this project come (sic) from the -- and -- and just --- just give us a little history, if you would.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Bertino-Tarrant.

SENATOR BERTINO-TARRANT:

Thank you, Mr. President. This is a long-standing project in our -- in our community, which is a -- a private-public partnership with one of our intermodals. They are trying to -- we are working on building a bridge to help divert traffic from I-80, which has been a -- a big issue in our community.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Senator Righter. Any further discussion? There being none, Senator Bertino-Tarrant, close.

SENATOR BERTINO-TARRANT:

I -- I ask for an Aye vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

The question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments {sic} 3 to Senate Bill 531. All those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe, please come to the Floor. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton, please come to the Floor to vote. Senator Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, Link, please come to the Floor. Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, Plummer. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, and Tracy. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, and President Harmon. Anderson, Castro, Ellman, Fowler. Holmes, Joyce, Manar. McClure, Oberweis. Rose. Villanueva, Weaver, Wilcox. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 54 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments {sic} 3 to Senate Bill 531, and the bill is declared passed. Okay, we will now proceed to Supplemental Calendar No. 1. Motion to concur, Senate Bill 471. Majority Leader Lightford. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.
SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendment No. 3 to Senate Bill 471.

Filed by Senator Lightford.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Majority Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. My glasses are fogging up, so I'm going to try to see this the best I can. Senate Bill 471, as amended by the House, includes three labor-related provisions. The first one would be that it provides an additional sixty days of paid disability leave -- leave to an eligible public employee who's recovering from a line-of-duty physical injury -- is hindered by COVID-19 circumstances. The second area requires all horse racetracks that expand to include a casino engage in collective bargaining with organized labor where desired by a majority of employees. And the third enhances the offense of battery to aggravated battery when committed against a retail worker in the course of their employment when seeking to enforce retail health and safety policies during a disaster declared by the Governor or a state of emergency declared by the local mayor. There has been quite a bit of discussion -- discussion around this issue. This is a bill that missed the degree -- agreed bill list by a couple weeks. But, however, we find it to be COVID-19 related and the areas need to be addressed. Now I do want to state that...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Let's keep the noise down a little bit.
The racetrack industry - we expanded racinos, and I know that there is -- a number of Senators have been working on this issue. So Senator Celina will go deep -- Villanueva, for everyone else -- will go a little bit deeper into that issue. And then on the final item, there is no sunset date. It is allowable. We will establish legislative intent and hope to come back to clarify some of those measures for Veto Session. I'd be happy to answer questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

Thank you, Mr. President. To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

...bill, Senator.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

I wanted to speak a little bit more about the initiative that was worked on with labor, specifically the Chicago Federation of Labor and other labor partners. Last year's gaming expansion created new licenses for existing horse tracks to expand operations including casinos, known as racinos. And now, with this initiative, as these facilities expand operations, they will also be expanding the workforce such as it relates to particularly vulnerable workers: low-income earners, janitorial staff, and food service. And for a while, according to our partners at the Chicago Federation of Laborers (sic), the National Labor Board Relations -- or the Relations Board has excluded from the coverage of the National Labor Relations Act both employers and employees of the horse racing industry. In Illinois, most employer and employees excluded from the N -- NL -- NLRA have been granted similar rights by the State of Illinois. However, the racing
industry has not. And so with this particular Section, it is giving some of the folks in the backstretch, some of the folks on the backside of the racetracks in the State of Illinois an opportunity to collectively bargain. And as a former union member and a union steward, that's a huge, huge, huge opportunity for so many people in the backstretch. And, again, this is not all backstretch workers, but some, to be able to get what they deserve. So, I wanted to say how thankful I am to Leader Lightford, to all the labor partners and the folks who were part of this bill, the creation of this bill and the added portion of -- of this bill, and how necessary it is to make sure that when we're thinking about all of everything and everyone that puts -- and is a part of these racetracks and these casinos, that we think about especially the low-income wage earners in the back that most everyone never pays attention to. So this is just the beginning and I look forward to coming back to this Chamber and doing some more work for our folks in the backstretch and so that they know that they're supported by us here in this Chamber. So I wanted to say thank you on this, Leader, and I look forward to voting Yes on this.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Any discussion? Senator Curran, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR CURRAN:

Question of the presenter.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Actually, if I could direct this question to Senator Villanueva - it's -- it's on her topic - before I speak to the
rest of the bill. I -- I just -- Senator, on the second part of this bill that you covered, on the horsemen portion of it, is that limited to just the horse racing -- as these operations morph into racinos, where there's a casino element and a horse racing element, does -- is that going to be just limited to the horse racing element of their operation?

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

So it's the horse racing folks that -- that are carved out of the NLRA. And it is for racinos, so for racetracks that are now looking for licenses to also become casinos. So we're specifically talking about that. So, again, that's why I also made the statement of making sure that this is just the beginning; that we're going to come back and try to do some more because there are other folks in the backstretch that are also not completely included by this and also need the additional support and the additional help.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Curran.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Thank you, Senator. I -- I appreciate that answer -- or further clarification. So, in terms of the casino element, though, of the operation that is likely to evolve in the future, separate and apart from the horse racing operation, this -- the -- this bill will not apply to, though, to the casino workers at this point without further amendment down the road?

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Villanueva.
SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

One second, Senator. I'm trying to get some clarity for you. Senator, this is for those racetracks that are looking to get licenses, in addition to being -- like to be a casino. So, again, these are for that, for those folks that are moving from not just being racetracks anymore but including casinos - racinos. So it would be those workers.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Curran.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Could -- Senator, when you say "those workers", I -- I think I'm just asking you, could you define "those workers" for me.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

Any of the employees under the gaming license that have been organized - is what I'm getting.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Curran.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Okay. Thank you, Senator. Mr. President, to the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Mr. -- Mr. President, I rise in favor of this bill. I -- I would like to speak on points one and three covered by the Majority Leader. On -- on -- on the first element of this bill, in terms of additional disability benefit coverage or extension for first-line law enforcement and firefighters that have an -- a disability
due to an injury related to their job and there's been a delay in treatment due to -- to -- to the COVID pandemic, I think that makes a lot of sense. And, you know, these -- these are people that are our -- our front lines, putting themselves in harm's way on a day-in and day -- day-out basis to maintain public safety in our communities, and -- and I think it's only right to do that. So I -- I -- I appreciate your initiative in addressing that, Senator -- or Majority Leader. As well, I would say, as we've learned through this pandemic, the -- our -- our grocery store clerks, our retail merchants that are essential workers and required to encounter the public on a day-in and day-out basis and also put themselves in harm's way through this pandemic deserve protection and this -- this element with regards to aggravated battery. What -- what they don't deserve when they show up day in and day out and put themselves in harm's way is a battery or any sort of physical assault by -- by someone that, quite frankly, is -- has raised hostilities in their place of work. So I -- I think it's an important element and an important protection for another category of frontline workers that have really stepped up and stepped to the -- stepped to the plate during this pandemic. So I applaud you on both those initiatives. I -- I -- I'm not sure on part two. I'm not sure I'm wild about that, but I -- I -- I do hear that we're going to have further work done in -- in -- in a future Session on that. But all in all, in totality, I think a good bill and I would urge an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I wonder if the sponsor
will yield, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. Senator Lightford, I -- I'm not sure I understand the provision with regards to the collective bargaining well enough to be troubled by it, but I have that sense. I mean, first, can you describe to me in non-horseman terms -- because I'm not in that industry -- what employees to which this applies?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Majority Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

I missed which segment. Which -- which employees on which issue: one, two or three?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

The issue with regards to the tracks.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you for clarity, Senator. I just missed who you were referring to. So we all know that the gaming was expanded to include racinos, and those employees that are on the backstretch is an issue that has been worked on for many years around here. Last year, Leader Martinez had legislation all the way to the final day and then the language kind of blew up. And we spent some years on this at the Maywood Park Racetrack, visiting their deplorable
housing, their low-wage workers. And we just want to make sure that they have an opportunity to organize in the space of racinos so that they can have better protection. So, only on the racino space where we expanded gaming, those racinos will be able to organize if their employer sets forth that opportunity and if they accept it.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

   Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

   So, this is -- this applies only in the instance of racinos, as opposed to a track that's not a racino. Is that accurate?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

   Majority Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

   Yes, Senator. If they're getting a license to be a racino, then that's where the opportunity will lie for those members in the backstretch to be able to organize.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

   Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

   Is there language in the bill that makes it clear that if there is a new racino - so, new construction - which, in that case, they obviously don't have a collective bargaining agreement with the horsemen because there aren't horsemen working for them yet because it's construction -- I mean, they have to get a license. Is there language in there that makes clear that in that instance this requirement doesn't apply to them; that they could still get the license to get up and running before being required to enter into the collective bargaining agreement?
(b) Before an organization gaming license may be granted or renewed, the applicant or license (licensee) seeking an organization gaming license or renewal shall do a number of things: 

1. Enter into, and observe, the terms of a collective bargaining agreement with any labor organization seeking to represent a majority of the licensee (licensee's) employees in a bargaining unit consisting of all non-supervisory and non-management employees in the classifications identified by the labor organization. Any new employees hired by the licensee who perform work substantially similar to current employees in an existing bargaining unit already represented by a labor organization at the facility shall be incorporated into that existing bargaining unit. Did -- does that answer your question, Senator?

Senator Righter.

Thank you, Mr. President. And, I mean, thank you for giving me the language, because I hadn't seen that. Again, I don't know enough about the industry to know - I mean, is that a problem for new construction? I don't know. I mean -- do you know at what point in the process of a new track with -- in a racino do they have to get their license, and would that language keep them from getting their license because they don't have collective
bargaining agreements in place yet, because they haven't hired the employee because they're not running yet?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Senator, I don't know that it'll be a -- a -- a challenge. The only outstanding license right now has been already rejected by the Board, so there is some challenges there. But moving forward on all additional racinos, the goal is to have the backstretch workers organize. I know you're trying to get at a specific here and I'm trying to identify it for you in the statute. I know that this being an initiative of labor may -- may, you know, for some, you know, throw their hands up and wonder what's going on, but the goal here is just the new licenses that we recently created, we're wanting to make sure that we expand those operations to also expand the workforce that's related to vulnerable workers and we want to make sure that both employers and employees of the horse racing industry are in an agreement on this. So, if there's further questions, I'd -- I'd love to give you a stab at it, but I know that there is a dire need here. It's an area that we have been working on some years. I know that it's -- it's barely getting us started, and Senator Villanueva will be picking this up and trying to enhance it even further. But this is just a small step in identifying those new racinos. We're wanting to make sure they're aware that we want those workers to be unionized or have the opportunity to be unionized.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:
Thank you, Mr. President. So, it's my understanding that there are a -- a -- at least a handful of applications pending currently for tracks who -- who desire to become racinos. How would this affect those current pending applications? Does this requirement apply to those that have already been filed, or not?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Misunderstood. We're not referring to building new racinos, so a new license - right - new racetracks. So I've got something for you. The language could be misconstrued to apply to a track looking for a conditional license to start construction. It wouldn't make sense to require a collective bargaining agreement when they don't have employees. When tracks are looking to build, they get a conditional license to start construction. And so -- that's it. So, on a conditional license, they can move forward with construction because they don't have employees yet. So that answers your question.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

So -- that was the previous question. Now -- my question now is, existing tracks that currently have applications pending to become racinos, does this -- does this apply to -- I mean, that have already been filed?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

That's a yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you. And last area of inquiry is -- I think -- I think you would agree that this is a -- kind of a new step, where we're saying you don't get a license to lawfully operate unless you allow employees to organize and sign a collective bargaining agreement. It -- are we just aiming at the horsemen in the horse industry here? Because we can all think of numerous areas, numerous areas, where State government could say you're not getting a license to operate -- nursing home, hospital, go down the list -- unless you allow for this. I mean, I guess I'm asking, Senator Lightford, for you to give me whatever you can give me insofar as an insurance that you're not looking to expand this into other areas, because that could get very difficult very quick for -- for lots of institutions around the State, not to mention Members in terms of voting on this bill. And I'll -- with that, I will be done with my questions. Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

So, under the National Labor Relations Act, Senator, these workers are still considered under the -- agriculture, which makes it very difficult for them to fit the space that we're trying to now establish them. They're not covered in the NLRA; that's why we're needing to do this. I hope we wouldn't compare the nursing homes at this point to anything, because, yes, they do need to collective bargain there as well. But just sticking to racinos, this is an important initiative for those backstretch workers.
Again, I can't tell you enough how they have deplorable living conditions; they receive low wages. There is no protections there. And as we expand the gaming industry and we add on racinos, I -- I think it's only fair that they have an opportunity to organize so that they can have better and safer work -- work requirements, benefits, opportunities, all of that. So that would be my answer, Senator.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

    Senator Sims, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR SIMS:

    Thank you, Mr. President. Questions to the sponsor for legislative intent.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

    She indicates she will yield, Senator.

SENATOR SIMS:

    Thank you, Mr. President. Leader Lightford, my questions relate to the changes to the aggravated battery Section of the Criminal Code included in -- Senate Bill 471. The change -- the proposed changes outlined apply only to merchants. Is that correct, Leader Lightford?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

    Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

    Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, the proposed changes apply only to a merchant while performing his or her duties, including, but not limited to, relaying directions for healthcare or safety from his or her supervisor or employer or relaying health or safety guidelines, recommendations, regulations, or rules for (sic) (from) a federal, State, or local public health agency; and during
a disaster declared by the Governor, or a state of emergency declared by the mayor of the municipality in which the merchant is located, due to a public health emergency and for a period of six months after such declaration.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Sims.

SENATOR SIMS:

   Thank you, Leader. Do these proposed changes apply only to the current COVID-19 pandemic declaration?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

   Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

   These changes apply to the current COVID-19 pandemic declaration as well as any subsequent declarations for COVID-19 or any other disaster. However, my concern is to protect frontline workers during this current COVID-19 pandemic from instances of violence while they are attempting to protect public health and safety. And as we are under a tight timeline, it is my intent that should the pandemic extend into the fall, the language in this provision will be tightened up in a trailer, or if we do not see an extension of the current pandemic, the provision simply be allowed to expire upon passage of the six-month time period outlined in this legislation.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

   Senator Sims.

SENATOR SIMS:

   Thank you, Leader. The unintended consequence of this provision can be significant. Are merchants under a duty to inform the general public of this provision, and how will this change be
Senator Sims, there is nothing in this bill establishing a duty for the merchant to assume responsibility to inform a potential bad actor of this provision. However, it is my hope and I'd like to see that this — venture to guess, that many Members engage in significant constituent outreach activities, and while it is my intent to alert my constituents to the work we have accomplished here during this Session, the duty always remains on the individual to comply with the laws we pass in this State.

Senator Sims.

Thank you, Leader. So, just to confirm, we will revisit this provision in the fall Veto Session and make any adjustments if necessary.

Senator Sims.

Thank -- thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Leader. To the motion. Each of us want to make sure that we are protecting our frontline workers. They are putting themselves in harm's way to protect and provide services during this pandemic and they do
not deserve to be disrespected or put in harm's way as they go about trying to do their jobs. Everyone I've worked with in this Chamber knows my commitment to criminal justice reform and ensuring that policies that we forward in the criminal justice system are narrowly tailored to protecting public safety, but also narrowly tailored to improving the rights of victims, and also returning individuals to their fullest usefulness. I think this provision that -- this proposal is narrowly tailored to do that. And I -- I would ask for a favorable -- favorable consideration. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Leader.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Schimpf, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR SCHIMPF:

A question of the -- question of the sponsor, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield.

SENATOR SCHIMPF:

Yes. Leader, I -- I apologize for the -- for the question on this and I'd -- I'd like, if we could, just to try to get a little bit more clarity, because I'm getting blown up on my phone and on my email right now by the -- the Horsemen's Benevolent Protection {sic} (Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective) Association, which is the group that represents the -- the backstretch workers that we're talking about that we -- that we want to help. And what they are telling me is that as this legislation is written, it says that it has to be employees of -- of the track, and the reason that that is important is because the backstretch workers are not track employees, that they -- you know, that -- you know, the only track employees are the -- the mutuel clerks and the -- and the casino

31
clerks. So I was wondering if we could just try to nail down -- nail down that point, 'cause I want to make sure this does truly help the other backstretch workers that we're all -- we're all talking about.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Leader Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Right. Senator, as I've stated, this doesn't cover everyone, and that's part of the reason why Senator Villanueva will be working on this further in Veto Session, but we find it to be a -- a healthy start in acknowledging that we already expanded racinos and these are some vulnerable employees that need to have an opportunity to collective bargain. So we know that there is some steps that are missing that we will take up on right away when we return in November. Just in lieu of time and the bill coming over and very difficult to make any changes at this point, I'd like for the Body to move the bill forward and we come back and make those adjustments and have more time to work on it during Veto Session.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Schimpf.

SENATOR SCHIMPF:

Thank you for that -- for that clarification.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

No other discussion, Majority Leader, to close.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I'd just like to just reiterate that this is an important initiative in so many ways as it relates to COVID-19. It's really
important that we do identify with our first responders and give them those sixty additional days of disability that's needed for rehab purposes and the like. It's also important that as we continue to expand gaming that we protect vulnerable employees and make sure that they have rights. And then lastly, this COVID-19 pandemic has been really horrific; I think it's really important that we support those essential workers who are being attacked with some stricter penalties. None of us in the Senate Black Caucus, of course, love these enhanced penalties, but we do know that we're in a crises {sic} and that we have to act on this in this way. I know Leader Martinez worked on the racino issue for the backstretch workers for many years. She had legislation last year; the language kind of fell apart. But I know that this is the perfect time to bring that legislation back forward and work with Senator Villanueva in Veto Session. I hope I answered all the questions to your liking and I just ask for an Aye vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

The question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments {sic} 3 to Senate Bill 471. All those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor in voting groups of ten. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, and Crowe, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, Glowiak Hilton, please come to the Floor. Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, and Plummer. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, and Tracy.
Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, President Harmon. Senator Jones. Senator Manar. Senator McConchie. Senator Wilcox. Senator Righter. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 47 voting Aye, 3 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments {sic} 3 to Senate Bill 471, and the bill is declared passed. Senate will stand in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

First Special Session, please come to order. Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

   Senate Bill 557.

Together with the following amendments which are attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

   House Amendments 1 and 2 to Senate Bill 557.


We have received like Messages on Senate Bill 671, with House Amendments 2 and 3, and Senate Bill 1864, with House Amendments 4

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

We'll now proceed to page 2 of the Calendar. We will be going to Senate Bill -- House Bill 2682. Sponsor's been changed to Senator Feigenholtz. Senator Feigenholtz seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 2682 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 2682. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by Senator Feigenholtz.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Feigenholtz, on your amendment.

SENATOR FEIGENHOLTZ:

Thank you, Mr. President. The amendment becomes the bill. The bill is a response to something going on in small businesses regarding revenue and some other elements of relief that we're giving to bars and restaurants in the Liquor (Control) Act. I'm happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? There being none, all those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

3rd Reading. On the Order of 3rd Reading, Mr. Secretary,
read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 2682.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Feigenholtz.

SENATOR FEIGENHOLTZ:

...you, Mr. President. So, during this pandemic, a lot of our small independent businesses are really struggling and are suffering. You know, in the State of Illinois, we have five hundred and eighty thousand jobs in hospitality. Three hundred thousand of those people are now unemployed. So we're bringing this legislation forward to allow -- bars and restaurants, under some relatively stringent rules, to deliver cocktails to go, which is enumerated in this legislation, and also providing some fee waivers, deferring license fees, automatic renewals extending licenses for a hundred twenty days, and doing many, many things to help give relief to them. This bill has an immediate effective date, a one-year repeal. And I'm happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Senator Barickman, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR BARICKMAN:

Question of the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates she will yield.

SENATOR BARICKMAN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senator, I -- I -- first of all,
I just want to thank you for your work on this legislation. I know we had some questions earlier and I appreciate you addressing those. Also thank your staff, who's always delightful to work with and even prompts some of us to get to the Floor in a hurry so we can make sure we can ask our questions. So, a question simply for legislative intent. Is it your intent to revoke any rights given to license holders who are allowed to self-distribute under the law currently?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
   Senator Feigenholtz.

SENATOR FEIGENHOLTZ:
   It is not. No.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
   Senator Barickman.

SENATOR BARICKMAN:
   Thank you for that. I would simply urge an Aye vote. And thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
   No further discussion, Senator Feigenholtz, to close.

SENATOR FEIGENHOLTZ:
   I'd appreciate an Aye vote, as would the independent businesses, bars and restaurants that prop up the State of Illinois.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
   Question is, shall House Bill 2682 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. If we move to the next group of Senators and you have not yet voted, you may still come to the Floor to vote until voting is

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MARTINEZ) Senator Muñoz back in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ) Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Motion to Concur with House Amendments 1 and 2 to Senate Bill 557 and Motion to Concur with House Amendments 4 and 6 to Senate Bill 1864. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairman.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Ladies and Gentlemen, now going to Supplemental Calendar No. 3. It's been distributed. Final action. We'll now proceed to Senate Bill 1864. Senator Hunter. Motion to concur. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendments 4 and 6 to Senate Bill 1864.

Filed by Senator Mattie Hunter.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

I wish to concur with -- I'm sorry. I wish to adopt a motion {sic} 4 and 6 and explain it on... It's all one motion now? Thank you very much. As amended, 1864 creates a health care omnibus bill that includes: a health -- health care affordability study; it creates the Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force; the Medicaid coverage for clinical trials; provisions to allow Health -- HFS to take necessary actions to address COVID-19 public health emergency and to codify existing practices with regards to Medicaid coverage for COVID testing and related medical care; and provisions to allow remote monitoring and support services as a waiver-reimbursable service for persons with intellectual and developmentally {sic} disabilities and seniors requiring in -- in-home care. A lot of details are included in this measure: health care affordability study, the kidney disease, codifying health care information exchange, omnibus, the COVID public health emergency, emergency kits, Medicaid coverage related services, ambulatory providers, Medicaid coverage of cancer clinical trials,
and advancing remote services and support. Are there any questions?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Being no discussion, the question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments 4 and 6 to Senate Bill 1864. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Again, we'll be calling Members to vote on the Floor in groups of ten. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, and Crowe. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link. Senator Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, Plummer. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, Tracy. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, and President Harmon. Senator Belt, Senator Curran, Senator Fowler. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 50 voting Aye, 3 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments 4 and 6 to Senate Bill 1864, and the bill is declared passed. Senator Cunningham, I hear you have an update on absences. Please proceed, Senator.

SENIOR CUNNINGHAM:

That's correct, Mr. President. Earlier today I asked that Senator Martwick be excused for the day. Pursuant to Special -- Senate Rule 13-4(d), I ask that Senator Martwick be put back on the roll call. He is in the Capitol.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Record will reflect and he'll be put on the roll. Back to Supplemental Calendar No. 3. We'll proceed. Senate Bill 557. Senator Bush. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendments 1 and 2 to Senate Bill 557. Filed by Senator Bush.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Bush.

SENATOR BUSH:

Thank you very much, Mr. President, Members of the Chambers. Senate Bill 557, as amended, allows federally qualified health centers to provide medical forensic services to all sexual assault -- under the same requirements that hospitals currently have under the law. Federally qualified health centers will be able to do so for the duration of, and ninety days following, a Governor's proclamation of a disaster in all one hundred and two counties or successful {sic} (successive) proclamations based on the same disaster due to a public health emergency. This is a heavily negotiated bill. I know of no opponents and I would ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Any discussion? There being none, the question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments 1 and 2 to Senate Bill 5-5-7. All those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham,
Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link. Senator Manar, Martinez, Martwick, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, Plummer. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, Tracy. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, and President Harmon. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 56 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments 1 and 2 to Senate Bill 557, and the bill is declared passed. Members of Committee of {sic} Assignments, please come to the Senate Floor. Members of the Committee of {sic} Assignments. Senator Martinez in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MARTINEZ)
Senator Muñoz back in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:
Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendments 2 and 3 to House Bill 823.

Signed by Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Page 2 of the Calendar. House Bill 823. Sponsor's been changed to Senator Harris. Senator Harris seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted.
On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 8-2-3. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Hunter.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Hunter, on Amendment 2.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Mr. President, I wish to withdraw Amendment No. 2.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Amendment 2 is withdrawn. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 3, offered by Senator Hunter.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Hunter, on Amendment 3.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I wish to adopt Amendment No. 3 and I wish to explain it on -- on 3 -- 3rd Reading and I wish to adopt...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Any discussion?

SENATOR HUNTER:

...adopt the amendment on 3.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
3rd Reading.  Mr. Secretary, read the bill.
SECRETARY ANDERSON:
House Bill 823.
(Secretary reads title of bill)
3rd Reading of the bill.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Senator Harris.
SENATOR HARRIS:
Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate.  House Bill 823 is a collective effort by a lot of different people to get us to the point here today.  The first part I'm going to allow -- turn it over to Senator Hunter to explain the -- the first portion of the Amendment 3.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Senator Hunter.
SENATOR HUNTER:
Thank you very much, Mr. President.  The first portion of this bill creates the Sickle Cell Prevention, Care, and Treatment Program under the Department of Public Health.  And it provides for the prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell disease and educational materials concerning the disease; specifies which program areas the Department of Public Health must develop; and it also specifies program requirements.  And this bill also creates the -- the Sickle Cell Chronic Disease Fund, which provide funding for the implementation of the program, and requires the Department to conduct a study on the prevalence, impact, and needs of individuals with sickle cell anemia.  This bill is an -- an initiative of Novartis Health and the Sickle Cell (Disease)
Association. And -- and I wish to turn the remaining part over to Senator -- Leader Harris to discuss his portion of the bill. Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

SENATOR HUNTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. And I also forgot to say that this initiative came out of the recommendations of the Health and Human Services work group as well. Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

SENATOR HARRIS:

And I thank you, Mr. President. And I thank you, Leader Hunter. The portion that -- regarding telehealth is the portion that codifies substantial portions of the Governor's Executive Order. Specifically, it requires insurance -- insurance insurers to cover all telehealth services delivered by in-network providers and prohibits cost-sharing on such services until December 31st of 2020. It prohibits insurers that cover telehealth services from electing not to cover a medically necessary health care service delivered by a contracted provider solely because it's provided through telehealth. It permits insurers to enter into a contract for telehealth services where the terms and reimbursement, including facility fee, and -- are subject to negotiation. And it expands the definition of telehealth services to include the deliver -- electronically or telephonically, meaning landline or cell. I request a favorable vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Is there any discussion? Senator Righter, for what purpose
do you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you, Mr. President. Will the sponsor yield, please?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates he will yield.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you. Senator Harris, the -- the provision that you just described, am -- am I correct in believing that this is the telehealth reimbursement parity language that's been bantered about here and talked about, oh, for the last Session or so, and a similar provision was pulled out of the House health care package before it passed the House? Is -- am I referring to the same -- we got the same subject?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris. Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

So this would make permanent the Governor's Executive Order provision that requires reimbursement and -- in equal fashion with in-person treatments. Is that a layperson's way to describe this provision?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:

Not exactly, Senator Righter. It doesn't make permanent. It -- it codifies the Governor's -- portion of the Governor's Executive Order until -- services until December 31st of 2020.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:
Why do you think that it's appropriate to extend this through the end of the calendar year, as opposed to simply when the emergency has subsided and the Governor's not issuing his Executive Orders any longer?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:

Well, first and foremost, we appreciated the Governor for doing this. We know that telehealth is relatively new; however, during COVID-19, it really was a great service provided by the many citizens of here in Illinois, and we thought it was a great idea to extend the services until such time because that gives all parties involved an opportunity to come together and work on a plan for telehealth moving forward. We don't want to disrupt service or coverage for recipients who are currently receiving telehealth, and we just figure it was the best time for all parties involved to come together in good form and good-faith efforts to negotiate moving telehealth forward. We realize that, you know, you could pick any date, so to speak, but this is a first step into making sure that telehealth is in a really good form here in the State of Illinois.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Can -- can I assume from that, Senator Harris, that your thought process going forward is to extend the terms of the Executive Order through the end of the calendar year, which obviously gets you to the fall Veto Session and an opportunity perhaps to pass legislation to extend this or some form of this
beyond the end of this calendar year?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:

Can you repeat that one more time to the exact point what you're trying to make, sir? Sorry.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Can I assume, Senator Harris, from the comments that you made just a moment ago that you're -- you're thinking ahead that we -- that you want to extend the terms of the Governor's Executive Order with regards to reimbursements through the end of the calendar year because that gets you to the fall Veto Session and perhaps then you -- legislation can be moved to extend the parity even beyond the end of the calendar year? In other words, you've picked the calendar year because that gets you beyond the fall Veto Session and another Legislative Session.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:

The goal -- the goal was to create stability for the -- for the members -- or the citizens who currently now under here in the State of Illinois who are receiving telehealth benefits. The goal was to maintain that we have stability moving forward to give time for providers, for insurers, for all parties involved to assess what telehealth is doing here in Illinois and to make great decisions by having a conversation moving forward.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Senator Righter. Senator Fine, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR FINE:

To the bill, please, and a question for the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the...

SENATOR FINE:

Oh, question for the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Sponsor indicates he will yield.

SENATOR FINE:

Senator Harris, this is a bill that I know is very important to -- to both of us, and as part of our discussions, we were talking about what can be done over the summer if we extend this so people still have that access to health care. Could you talk a little about why those discussions over the summer are so important?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:

Yeah. Those discussions are important because it brings everybody to the table who has an interest in telehealth to maintain that the citizens who -- now who receive it can -- so that moving forward that we have a -- that we know here in the State how telehealth is going to be conducted. And I think it's important to bring all stakeholders to the table so there's no confusion on -- on how we're going to move forward with telehealth.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senator Fine.
SENATOR FINE:
Yes, and there's -- also there's agreed language in this bill for telepsychiatry. Is that the case as well?
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)
Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS:
Yes. It brings to -- your bill into play, Senator Fine, Senate Bill 2561, in which you negotiated last spring. That's going to take effect as well. So, great job, Senator Fine, for bringing those parties together and -- and having an agreement with all sides.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

    Senator Fine.

SENATOR FINE:
Thank -- thank you. And those are all the sides that we'll bring together during the discussions over the summer when we figure out where we need to go in the State with this. To the bill. I just want to say the importance of this legislation. This Executive Order has been a lifeline for so many people during COVID-19. When it comes to the telepsychiatry piece in this legislation, we are -- we have psychiatry deserts around the State of Illinois, and this gives people access to mental health care that they may otherwise not have. And so I really appreciate the Body supporting this legislation, because I really do feel this legislation is going to save many lives. So thank you.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

    Senator Syverson, for what purpose you seek recognition?

SENATOR SYVERSON:
Thank you, Mr. President. To the bill.
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

I just want to thank both Senator Fine as well as Senator Harris for the -- this is -- this is really months of work before all this COVID came up, months of work negotiating with all the parties to get us to where we are on -- on this. And I appreciate the leadership of bringing all these groups together, including the insurance industry, to agree to this legislation. So -- and I want to make sure that the Members on our side know that this is -- this is months' worth of work that he's been able to negotiate this -- this agreement. So we appreciate your leadership and the work, again, that -- that Senator Fine has -- has -- has worked on. And I know there'll be some cleanup work being done later, but this certainly is a -- a key first step, so we appreciate that.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

No further discussion, Senator Harris, to close.

SENATOR HARRIS:

In closing, I'd just like to say, this is -- this bill is not perfect, but it's definitely a step in the right direction regarding telehealth in the State of Illinois. And I urge an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

The question is, shall House Bill 823 pass. All those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will call Members to the Floor for voting in groups of ten. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine,
Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link. Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, and Plummer. Senators Rezin, Righter, Rose, Schimpf, Sims, Stadelman, Steans, Stewart, Syverson, Tracy. Senators Van Pelt, Villanueva, Villivalam, Weaver, Wilcox, President Harmon. Senator Bennett, Senator Castro. Senator Crowe. Senator Gillespie. Senator Van Pelt. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 57 voting Aye. 0 voting Nay. 0 voting Present. House Bill 823, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Sam Dunklau, from WUIS, requests permission to photograph. There being no objection, leave is granted. Senator Curran, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR CURRAN:

Mr. President, the Senate Republicans would request a thirty-minute caucus.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR MUÑOZ)

Senate Republicans requesting a thirty-minute caucus in Room 400. Leave is granted. Senate will return to Session at 9:13 p.m. Senate stands in recess to call of the Chair.

(Senate stands in recess/Senate reconvenes)

PRESIDENT HARMON:

The First Special Session of the 101st General Assembly will please come to order. Senator Harris, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR HARRIS:
Thank you, Mr. President. I'm asking for a motion to reconsider. Having voted on the prevailing side, I move to reconsider the vote by which House Bill 823 passed and the vote by which the Senate Floor Amendment 3 was adopted.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Thank you, Senator. Having voted on the prevailing side, Senator Harris moves to reconsider the vote by which House Bill 823 passed and the vote by which Floor Amendment No. 3 was adopted. All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it, and the motion carries. And House Bill 823 is returned to the Order of 3rd Reading. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, let's turn to Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 2 of the First Special Session. On that order is Senator Cunningham's motion to concur in House Amendments 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516. Mr. Secretary, will you please read the motion?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendments 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516. Filed by Senator Cunningham.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Senator Cunningham, on your motion.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. I move that we adopt the -- the -- the bill as amended, Senate Bill 516. The bill makes modifications to the gaming law that we established last year in an effort to bring more revenue to the State and to local government, which, among other things, will help kick-start the State's capital construction project. I think we'd all will agree that's more important now, given the shape of our economy, than
it's ever been. The bill is relatively simple for a gaming bill, and I emphasize the word "relatively". There is no expansion of gaming in this bill. It essentially does six things. One is it makes changes to the Chicago tax structure for a Chicago casino. Those changes grew out of a recommendation made by a study that had been commissioned by the Illinois Gaming Board that found that the Chicago casino was not feasible with the existing structure. So we've adopted many of those recommendations in this bill. Number two, and related to that, is a change in the reconciliation fee that not only Chicago will pay, but all the new casinos that we established last year. So that also includes Rockford, Waukegan, Danville, and Walker's Bluff. Number three, we move a date in this bill. Right now, the existing casinos have to pay for their gaming licenses this July. Obviously, none of those casinos are open right now. They are not in a financial position to make those payments, so we've moved that back a year. Another thing we've done with an eye on the economic shape that our current casinos are in is we have moved up a change in the tax on their table gaming rates. That is scheduled to go down in October - at least, that's what's contemplated when the new casinos -- casinos will be licensed. We're going to move that date from October to July, which will provide a -- a measure of relief to our existing casinos. The fifth change is an important change for the Department of Agriculture and the State Fair here in Springfield as well as the DuQuoin State Fair. We're going to change the existing law to make sure they can administer video gaming in the beer tents at the State Fairs. This is important because it's going to bring more capital funds to our State Fairs, and we all know our State fairgrounds needs new capital investment. And then
finally, the sixth element is a change that will enable each of the towns that were awarded casinos a year ago to restart the process if the Gaming Board chooses not to award one of those -- a license for any one of those towns. I think I mentioned at the outset, this is important for capital and that is really what this is all about. Just a couple of numbers to keep in mind about the Chicago casino and the kind of revenue it will bring to the State in our capital program. Upfront, the -- the City casino will pay one hundred and forty-five million dollars in licensing fees to the State capital programs; that's before the casino even opens. That reconciliation payment I told you about -- over a six-year period, the Chicago casino will pay an additional seven hundred million dollars -- it's estimated -- into our capital programs. Then it is estimated that once the casino is up and running, it will contribute annually more than an additional two hundred million dollars, every year. So I think it's -- it's fair to say that over the next handful of years, the Chicago casino is going to provide hundreds of millions of dollars, indeed well over a billion dollars to our capital program. So that's why I think it's urgent that we take action on this bill today. And I'd be happy to answer any questions the Body might have.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Thank you, Senator. By agreement of the caucuses, we are recognizing one speaker from each caucus on this bill. Senator Murphy, are you ready to proceed?

SENATOR MURPHY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Will the sponsor yield?

PRESIDENT HARMON:

The sponsor indicates that he will yield.
SENATOR MURPHY:

So I'd like to start by really thanking Senator Cunningham for all the work that he did on this bill. It -- it was a big lift for him to tackle, and I think he did an outstanding job. And I think, most importantly, he did it in a transparent way, and so transparent that I even learned some new things about previous casino bills that I wasn't informed about. And so I really thank you for doing all of that and -- and for the manner that you've conducted yourself and how you've conducted the discussions on that. But I think that we've learned here it's really important that this bill is what's going to fund our vertical capital. We all know, particularly with these COVID times, how more important that's going to be. So we have to come to some kind of compromise here. And I'm really pleased that I now have the commitment of the Senate President and other Leadership that we're going to address some of the inequities that have occurred in past legislation, and I look forward to working on that. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Thank you, Senator Murphy. Senator Syverson, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President. To the bill.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you. I want to join Senator Murphy in thanking Senator Cunningham for his leadership on this -- on this vital piece of legislation. As was mentioned, we need this if we're going to
move forward with Illinois' capital plan. We also need this if we want to move our economy forward since so many jobs are tied into gaming and the gaming-related portions of it. So we appreciate the work on that. Included in this is, as was mentioned, not only dealing with the Chicago casino, but much needed legislation, changes that are going to help both existing casinos and those casinos like the ones in my area in Rockford that will need added help; this addresses some of those issues. Now, it doesn't address all the gaming concerns that are still out there. More work needs to be done, and hopefully we'll continue to work on that in the fall. We also believe that there are some agreements that the administration will work with the Gaming Board to make sure that we get our -- our video gaming operations up and going as quickly as possible, since that is vital not just to the State of Illinois, but to local governments as well. So we have that commitment, and we're going to stay on top of that to make sure that that happens as well. So I appreciate the work. Again, not everything we wanted, but clearly this is vital for us to move Illinois forward, and I would urge support for this legislation. And again, Senator Cunningham, thank you for your leadership on this.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Senator Cunningham, to close.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you, Senator Syverson and Senator Murphy, for your kind words. I believe we have -- I'm sorry. I think we -- I'm sorry, I thought there was someone else looking for recognition, but there was an agreement we were just going to have one speaker.

PRESIDENT HARMON:
I -- my -- Senator -- Senator -- Senator Lightford, I apologize. You are recognized to speak.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I asked to speak on this bill because it's really been a long time coming. It's about time that Chicago got a casino. And for years, the Senate has passed bill after bill to the House without any success, and it -- it seemed like every ten years - first Mayor Daley set forth the plan in the 1990s; Mayor Rahm Emanuel was trying to find ways to solve the City's financial woes; and now Mayor Lightfoot has fought really diligently to ensure that the fire and pension obligations fund -- for a revenue stream for her pension and fire fund. This bill was stalled during Veto Session last year, and it was unfortunate that only the City of Chicago's vote was constantly getting caught up in red tape. Some of the important things here is that it would create a tremendous amount of jobs for a lot of people in and around the City who really needs it. I'm also watching around the contract process piece that the City has in place to make sure that the minority business enterprise requirements are set forth and that minority participation benchmarks are put in place. The Chicago casino provides, again, a dedicated revenue stream to our capital needs, putting more than two hundred million a year for our Rebuild Illinois. This was a challenging journey, but it's well worth it. This is a proposal that will greatly benefit the City and the State for many years to come. Thank you to Mayor Lightfoot. Thank you to Leader Cunningham for working so hard. Thank you, President Harmon, for helping the casino vote become a reality. It's been a long time coming and I ask for an Aye vote. Thank you.
PRESIDENT HARMON:

Thank you, Leader Lightford, for your remarks. Senator Cunningham, to close now. I apologize for the confusion.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. As Leader Lightford pointed out, a lot of work has been done on this bill. Our two previous speakers engaged in much of that work. We put together a working group during our -- our absence from Springfield to really focus on that issue, and a lot of really good ideas came out of that effort and we were able to put in the House version of the bill that came over to us today. One thing I didn't mention that I want to emphasize that Chicago -- this is not going to be new -- new money coming into the City that they can spend any way they want; it's going to help fund their public -- their public safety pensions, something very important. They're among the lowest-funded pensions in our State. This is going to be a very important part of taking care of that. And of course, the other part of the funding will mostly go to State capital -- very important, particularly in the economic times we're facing right now. We need to -- we need to kick-start our -- our economy. This will do this. If we're going to build bridges in Metro East, if we're going to bring broadband to our rural school districts, if we're going to fix playgrounds and parks in the south suburbs and the collar counties, we need this bill to pass. None of those projects are going to be funded to anywhere near the level we are claiming they're going to be funded unless we pass this bill. So I ask all my colleagues -- colleagues to join me in voting Yes on Senate Bill 516.

PRESIDENT HARMON:
Thank you, Senator Cunningham. The question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendments No. 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? We will now call groups of Senators to the Floor to vote. If we move to the next group of Senators and you have not yet voted, you may still come to the Floor to vote until voting is closed. Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, Crowe, please come to the Floor. Senator Aquino, Collins, Tom Cullerton, Manar, McGuire, Peters, Van Pelt, Villivalam, Wilcox, please come to the Floor. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 42 Ayes, 14 Noes, and none voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 to Senate Bill 516, and the bill is declared passed. Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

Senate Bill 2135.

Together with the following amendments which are attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Amendments 5, 6, and 9 to Senate Bill 2135.


PRESIDENT HARMON:
Senator Righter, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. The Senate Republicans would request a caucus immediately in Room 400. Would you like me to ask for an hour or twenty minutes? Twenty minutes.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

The Senate Republicans have requested a twenty-minute caucus. As the Senate Republicans depart for caucus, the Committee on Assignments will meet on the Floor. So that the Members understand the order for the evening: When the Senate Republicans return from caucus, we're going to take up the remaining items that have come back on concurrence from the House - the -- the -- the Budget Implementation Act, the capital reappropriation bill, and the budget - and then we will wrap up our business for the evening. So the Senate -- Assignments will meet now as the Senate Republicans depart for caucus. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Motion to Concur with House Amendments 5, 6, and 9 to Senate Bill 2135. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

The Senate will stand at ease for a few moments while the Senate Republicans caucus. We will be returning for Floor action in approximately fifteen minutes. The Senate stands at ease. Correction: The Senate stands in recess for a few moments to the call of the Chair.
PRESIDENT HARMON:

The First Special Session of the 101st General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Committee on Assignments please assemble in the Well? Will the Committee on Assignments please assemble immediately in the Well? The Senate stands at ease to allow the Committee on Assignments to meet. Mr. -- Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendment 1 to House Bill 64 and Floor Amendment 2 to House Bill 357. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDENT HARMON:

Senator Lightford in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, on the Order of Calendar, House Bills 3rd Reading, page 2, beginning with House Bill 357. President Harmon. The gentleman indicates he wishes to proceed. Mr. Secretary. Senator Harmon seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 357 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 357. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by President Harmon.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

President Harmon, on Floor Amendment 2, please.
SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President. I move for the adoption of Floor Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 357.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Is there any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

3rd Reading. Now on the Order of 3rd Reading is House Bill 357. Mr. Secretary, please read the gentleman's bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 357.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

President Harmon.

SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President. I would like to yield my time to our cosponsor and budgeteer, Senator Steans, to present the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Steans. Senator Steans, on House Bill 357.

SENATOR STEANS:

Yes, so this House Bill 357 is the Budget Implementation Bill. So it takes a number of actions to implement the budget bill that will be coming from over in the House a little later to -- you know, it takes a number of financial steps that we usually do to
help do it. There's some additional changes that are -- a little bit of the substance that we need to do some of the rate increases that are incorporated into the budget, to make some changes to set the refund -- the tax refund rates that are always incorporated, a lot of standard things that we do every year to help implement the budget. I think everyone's had a chance to be briefed on them, and I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have. Certainly look forward to your Aye votes.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator. Senator Rose, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR ROSE:

Thank you -- thank you -- thank you, Madam President. If I may ask a couple questions of the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Absolutely, Senator. She indicates she will yield. Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

Yeah, thank you very much. There we go. First of all, I'd like to say thank you, Senator Steans, Senator Manar, the rest of the group. It was kind of an interesting experience Zooming for seven weeks, you know, going into our homes via Zoom, very cool. At one point, Senator Manar gave us a tour around - we saw a pretty cool painting one of his constituents did - but here we are at the end. And I guess I would start with a few questions, but I point out, you know, we really don't have to do this today. We've got quite a bit of time, and time would actually be very helpful in this circumstance. Senator Steans, have we gotten -- have we ever gotten an updated revenue report for the month of April?
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

We have had a number of discussions with GOMB that I know you were a participant of there, as well as with the Department of Revenue Director, David Harris. My gosh, I think the most recent -- I mean, we were practically having conversations with the budget director daily and with the budget -- you know, the Revenue Director probably two weeks ago. So we got a lot of updates then. A formal report, no. But what we heard from the Department of Revenue Director and GOMB Director was that there was not significant changes that they thought were merited to the Revenue projections.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

So, two weeks ago, we had received the March numbers, which was -- included a period of time with the greatest economy in history, right before COVID hit. So, as of today, we still do not have the April numbers. And this is a -- a critical piece, which I'll come to in a minute, but let me ask a few more questions about what finally made it in here. We are -- we believe there was a -- many of our suburban members were confused or -- or worried that there was an agreement maybe earlier in the day that was going to ensure that -- federal CARES Act funds made it to their suburban county municipalities via the counties. Did that agreement make it into this?

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Steans.
SENATOR STEANS:

No, and -- but I'm not aware of a -- a particular agreement either, but there's nothing in here that directs that. There's money that went from the federal government directly to Cook and some of the collar counties, and that money is directed by the federal government on how it gets spent.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

A few more questions. We are concerned because there seems to be a disconnect between the approp bill that's coming and -- and the budget bill related to legislative COLAs. Does this stop or prevent the COLAs? Does it reject the COLA in this BIMP?

SENATOR STEANS:

There's no -- not...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

...particular language in here because of the lawsuit that's outstanding. What the appropriation bills reflect are the reduction in the amount that would be for the COLAs in legislative play -- pay, so the intent is to not pay those COLAs. I spoke earlier tonight with the Comptroller's Office to ask specifically about whether or not they could pay COLAs without that language, and they said, because the COLAs were taken out of the appropriation side, they would not be making the COLA payments to the Legislature.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Rose.
SENATOR ROSE:

In the budget bill, there is a provision that sets aside; it's a provisional dollar amount, correct? One...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

I think you're talking about a contingency line, which is always -- we always have one for the General Assembly; that cannot be used for paying COLAs - and I specifically asked the Comptroller about that when I spoke to them earlier tonight.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

I've got a few more questions here, and then I'm going to make some overarching comments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

For -- for the second time...

SENATOR ROSE:

I want to make sure...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

...a few more questions.

SENATOR ROSE:

I know, but we're -- I'm only speaker on this bill, Madam President, so I appreciate your indulgence.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Okay -- okay. Just for the second time.

SENATOR ROSE:

Is the -- is the -- previously this Chamber authorized five billion in borrowing. This authorizes another billion and a half
- is that correct - from interfund borrowing?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

    Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

    Yes. Over the last couple of years, we've had interfund borrowing ability of 1.2 billion. This authorizes another three hundred million on top of that 1.2 billion for a total of 1.5 billion in interfund borrowing.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

    Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

    ...and then I'll go to my comments. The Governor has very large unbridled authority on how to spend the CARES Act money. Do we know what the total amount is that he's going to have just for the contact tracing alone? And does...(microphone cutoff)...any restrictions placed on how he spends it?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

    Senator Steans.

SENATOR STEANS:

    For the contact tracing, it is six hundred million. And as I think you know, we have set up a Legislative Budget Oversight Commission to help get feedback, understanding, and advice to the administration on the spending of those dollars as well as other items in the budget.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

    Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

    Thank you, Madam President. To the bill.
To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR ROSE:

Ladies and Gentlemen, I -- I'm -- I'm here and I want to make a few remarks. The -- this budget, such as it is, is predicated on six and a half billion dollars in borrowing in total. We are at a place in history that no one has been in the modern era. We understand that; you understand that; the citizens watching this, if any of 'em are still up at home, understand that. The question before us is, do we have to do this today? The information we had in our budget group was from April, which was referring to March numbers. We should have April numbers shortly. If we waited till mid-June, we would have May numbers. That would give us more and more certainty. It would also bring certainty -- or potential certainty if we waited till mid-June, till what the federal government may or may not do. And that's all very important to knowing for July 1 of this year through June 30th of next year what is this budget really going to do, and -- and how is it really going to work? And I would submit humbly, but I think factually, that we have some pretty missing components of that knowledge. Now, is this necessary to really do this? I realize going past May 30th, you end up in -- in -- you know, requiring a supermajority. Guess what, you've got a supermajority. But the reality is it would give us a lot of basic information; we would hopefully have inputs. Well, we -- we certainly would have better inputs on April's and May's finances for the State of Illinois, but we'd hopefully have inputs on where the federal government finally lands. That's a huge piece. And again, we don't -- you know, to get in a hurry to do this -- I remember when I was a trial lawyer, you know, the Legislature {sic} sometimes gets in a hurry.
and gets a mistake, and then you lose a case or you lose a client, or you lose this, you lose whatever. When we -- when we take our time to do it right, it always works out better in the long run. I want to mention a couple of other things along those lines, because I think there's going to be problems as we move forward. Giving the Governor unfettered ability on six hundred million dollars in contact tracing with really no way to know where that money goes or -- or how it's going to go, that -- that is a real problem. We need contact tracing, but let me give you two real-world examples of elsewhere in this budget with the Governor's unfettered authority. Under the federal CARES Act, the municipality -- the -- the City of Chicago and the urban counties surrounding it got 1.4 billion dollars. If you are doing the math right, just on a proportional basis that means everybody else should've gotten seven hundred million dollars. This BIMP allocates two hundred and fifty to everybody else and then leaves open a very wide question -- a very big question, is where is the rest of that money going to go and how is it going to be allocated? Now, there is a commission that's going to get a report every month, but it really doesn't give the Legislature any authority, like maybe a JCAR or maybe a COGFA, to pass off on how those moneys get spent. That's an incredible amount of money. Further, for the suburban areas of the State, the federal money went to the counties; there's now no guarantees that any of your municipalities are going to get it. Again, all the more reason to maybe take some more -- more time. Heck, we've even got till the end of the month before a supermajority kicks in, and after that, you guys have got the votes. But we should do it right - take the time to answer these questions, make sure we can go home and respond to
our citizens. If you think about the unfettered access of the Executive, you got the six hundred million in contact tracing. We need contact tracing. How's it going to be spent though is a darn good question. The four hundred and fifty million that may or may not come to those other counties but could very well get redirected back to the City of Chicago, who already got a pot from the federal government. We need the answers to those questions. As you go through it and through it and through it, those are the answers that you could get with more time that you take to do this budget right. I realize, you realize, we're all in this together, but transparency is everything. Making sure that your counties, your mayors, your local public health departments get the funds that not only they should be entitled to, but just as a matter of fundamental fairness to fight this infection, that's huge. It's absolutely huge. And throughout this budget, I'm sorry, having a commission that gets a monthly report but has no legislative oversight, that's nothing. Here's another one: Normally, in the good years, you give the Governor, whatever Governor, either party, any party, two percent discretion. In the Great Recession, I think we got up to four percent, but now we're at eight percent discretion between lines. Again, where is the check, the legislative check, the legislative balance, on that authority? I would humbly submit that if we had a little bit more time, which we absolutely do, we could get this right and do better by the communities that we represent. Madam President, I appreciate your indulgence, and I thank the Chamber for their time.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator Rose. Senator Steans, to close.

SENATOR STEANS:
Thank you very much. I very much appreciate the comments made by my colleague and for all the work that the budget working group did, both this side of the aisle as well as the Republican side of the aisle. We have spent hours together over Zoom, looking at the state of our current financial affairs and coming up with ways that we could try to address and put together a budget framework that would work. These are unprecedented times. We have many unknowns right now. We don't know whether the federal government will have another relief package. We know our revenues have dropped precipitously. We don't know what the economic recovery is going to look like as we go into reopening phase. There are many unknowns. And this budget is in fact then putting in place a preservation mode so that we don't drastically cut resources and services and programs at a time that we desperately need to provide those services to -- to folks around the State. To manage that, we have provided tools so that the administration can try to adjust. The two percent, which is typical for moving between line items, up to eight percent does give more flexibility to manage in these tough times. So what we've done to compensate is provide that Legislative (Budget) Oversight Commission. Anything that's above that two percent, for example, has to go into those reports, where these budgetary groups will meet and provide input, oversight, and understanding of what's happening. As we move forward, too, I just want to be clear, we'll also understand in that group how those COVID dollars are spent from the CARES Act. We've been very careful to allocate it on a proportional basis by population across the State, and I think we can give you the details on that, if you need it, later on to show you how that's been worked out. Very much look forward to your
Aye votes. Think that we are putting in place something here that really can provide stability during a point in time until we have more further information about help we're going to get from the federal government and -- and to maintain a good level of services for people across the State of Illinois. Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator Steans. The question is, shall House Bill 357 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Senators Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, and Crowe, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Cullerton, Cunningham, Curran, DeWitte, Ellman, Feigenholtz, Fine, Fowler, Gillespie, and Glowiak Hilton, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Harris, Hastings, Holmes, Hunter, Jones, Joyce, Koehler, Landek, Lightford, and Link, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Manar, Martinez, McClure, McConchie, Morrison, Muñoz, Murphy, Oberweis, Peters, and Plummer, please come to the Floor to vote. Senators Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Crowe, DeWitte, Glowiak Hilton, Joyce, Manar, McGuire - McGuire's not here - Manar, Stadelman, Senator Stadelman, please come to the Floor to vote. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 33 voting Yea, 19 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. House Bill 357, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. House Bill 64. Senate -- Senate President Harmon seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 64 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 64. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:
Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by President Harmon.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

President Harmon, on Floor Amendment 1.

SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President. I move for the adoption of Floor Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 64.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Is there any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

3rd Reading. Now on the Order of 3rd Reading is House Bill 64. Mr. Secretary, please read the gentleman's bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 64.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

President Harmon.

SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President. I would ask our cosponsor and budgeteer, Senator Elgie Sims, to present this bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Sims, on House Bill 64.

SENATOR SIMS:

Thank you, Madam President, and thank you, Senator Harmon.
House Bill 64 is the reappropriation authorization for the Build Illinois capital plan. The Rebuild Illinois capital plan includes 10.4 billion dollars for pay-as-you-go and 20.8 billion dollars in bonded capital projects. It also leverages ten billion dollars in federal funds and distributes 3.6 billion dollars to units of local government. The -- as we all know, the Rebuild Illinois capital plan is a six-year program consistent with the execution of the capital projects. This -- it was a -- this was a yeoman's job to bring this effort together and I -- I want to first and foremost thank both the Democratic and Republican staffs. Let me thank Aaron Holmes and his team for all the work that they've done, but specifically Miles Sodowski, who did a yeoman's job of pulling these projects together. And I would be remiss if I did not thank my own district office staff for the work that they did to pull this together: AJ Burse, Earl Bell, and Sharon Pincham. I'd answer any questions, Madam President, and ask for favorable consideration.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Leader Brady, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BRADY:

Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the bill, Senator? Or would you like the sponsor to yield?

SENATOR BRADY:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the bill, Leader Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

Thank you, Madam President. And thank you, Mr. President. I
appreciate the opportunity to work with you on this very important capital bill about making sure we -- we engage as quickly as we can the investments that we have for rebuilding the State's economy. We appreciate the way in which you reached out to us and what we were able to do collectively. This bill is going to be an important part of moving our State forward. As we all know, our State is struggling under this COVID-19 environment and, frankly, the economy. These are resources that we have available to us because of what -- because of things we did last year and other opportunities we have to help the citizens of this State. So I stand in support of this initiative and thank you for working with us on it.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Leader Brady. I'm not sure who's closing here, but is there additional comments, President Harmon, or -- or Senator Sims, to close? President Harmon.

SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President. I rise as a speaker on my own bill. I'm not sure if we've ever done this before, but Senator Brady inspired me to stand up and just to -- to return the compliment. It has been a pleasure to work with you on this bill, and I would agree that this is among the most important things we can do, putting working Illinoisans to work, and I look forward to partnering with -- with all the Members of this Chamber, Democrat and Republican, to ensure that we do that well. So, thank you for allowing me to speak to my own bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

A good job, Mr. President. Senator Sims, to close.

SENATOR SIMS:
Well, again, thank you, Madam President. We just funded a large part of this -- this capital plan by the actions we took earlier tonight. And I think as we -- as both Leader Brady and President Harmon just said, we -- this capital plan helps to put our State back on the road to recovery and back on a -- on a sound fiscal footing. So I'd like to see a lot of green votes up there and ask for your favorable consideration. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator Sims. The question is, shall House Bill 64 pass. All those in favor will say {sic} Aye. Opposed Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all... Oh, I almost closed that out. Okay, we have Senator Belt, Castro, Landek, Martwick, Plummer, Stewart. Senator Plummer. Senator Stewart. Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 54 voting Yea, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. House Bill 64, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Okay, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Supplemental Calendar 4 is -- has been passed out. Please turn your attention on the Order of Supplemental Calendar No. 4, Secretary's Desk, Concurrences. Senate Bill 2135. Senator Burke -- Bennett -- Sims. Senator Sims. Mr. Secretary, please read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendments 5, 6, and 9 to Senate Bill 2135. Signed by Senator Sims.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Sims, on your motion.
SENATOR SIMS:

Thank you, Madam President. When we left this Chamber in March, none of us could have predicted the changes coming to our way of life and/or governing. As amended by the House, Senate Bill 2135 creates the Government Emergency Administration Act. The bill makes various changes to assist in the safe operation of government during emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic by doing the following: It creates the Restore Illinois Collaborative Commission, a legislative commission to monitor the actions of the Governor's Office regarding the Restore Illinois plan; creates the task force on business interruption insurance policies to study impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses and needs -- need for changes to business interruption insurance policies; amends the Open Meetings Act to allow -- by allowing a meeting subject to the Act to be conducted by audio or video conferencing during a pandemic so long as the public is still given access to see and hear the proceedings, along with two days' notice; amends the Broadband Act -- Advisory Council (Act) to -- by allowing a study -- for a study to be done to provide for free broadband internet access to all Illinoisans; amends the Illinois Electronic Commerce Secretary -- Security Act to ratify various documents that were electronically not -- notarized under the Governor's COVID-19 Executive Orders; amends the Illinois Government and {sic} (Governmental) Ethics Act to establish August 1st, 21 -- 2020 filing deadline for the 2020 statements of economic interest; gives the Secretary of State certain -- certain emergency powers when the Governor issues a disaster declaration; it also gives additional time for matters before the Secretary of -- the Secretary of State Merit Commission during those emergencies;
allows for a one-year extension of certain investment contracts at the University of Illinois; and reduces the required free days for -- at aquariums, museums, and zoos during the emergency. I ask -- I'd answer any questions and ask for a favorable consideration, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator Sims. Senator McConchie, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR McCONCHIE:

Thank you, Madam President. Question of the sponsor to clarify something for legislative intent.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Sponsor indicates he will yield. Senator McConchie.

SENATOR McCONCHIE:

Thank you, Senator Sims. A question has been raised in regards to the formation language for the business interruption task force. It indicates the Department of Insurance will appoint a representative from Illinois from a national insurance trade association. There are two relevant national trade associations, one that represents mutual companies and another represents stock companies. I'd like to confirm for legislative intent purposes that the task force will be comprised of a representative from each national trade association.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Sims.

SENATOR SIMS:

Yes, Senator. That is our understanding.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator McConchie.
SENATOR McCONCHIE:

Thank you, Madam President. Thank you, Senator. I -- assuming this becomes law, we look forward to that -- participating. I also, though, encourage a No vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Sims. I'm smiling too, Senator Barickman. Senator Barickman, for -- for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BARICKMAN:

Thank you, Madam President. To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR BARICKMAN:

Thank you, Madam President. You know, Ladies and Gentlemen, in the -- in the days and the weeks that led up to this very unique Special Session of our General Assembly, I have heard from countless constituents who have asked me, much like I presume they have asked you, what we are planning to do to provide oversight to the many unilateral actions that we have seen taken by Governor Pritzker over the last several weeks. Senator, I'm reading your bill which purports to create the Restore Illinois Collaborative Commission, which does certain things. Upon the request -- I'm looking at the bill -- request of the Governor's Department, they're going to convene certain meetings, and if they choose to convene those meetings, they'll then issue reports to the General Assembly every thirty days to report to us what they are doing on behalf of the Restore Illinois Collaborative Commission. I've got to tell you, Senator, my constituents expect far more from the General Assembly than what this Commission purports to do. Senator, I -- I know you know my district, but let's consider what's happened
here in Illinois. In the past ten weeks or so, we have seen Governor Pritzker issue an emergency declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and since that declaration, Governor Pritzker has issued more than thirty Executive Orders in -- which are his response to the unique circumstances the people of our State of Illinois are going through. His Executive Orders have been wide-reaching and have touched upon every aspect of our constituents' lives. The media has reported some of the impacts of these Executive Orders in the workplace, limiting where we eat and where we worship, but his Executive Orders have gone well beyond those things as well - making changes to the Open Meetings Act, changes to the operations of the Secretary of State's Office, imposing civil immunities for certain health care providers, moratoriums on evictions that impact duly elected county sheriffs in each of our counties, making changes to the way marriage ceremonies are performed, and whether -- certain units of government even conduct meetings. My point in raising all of these examples is that of the thirteen million people in our State, there are wide-ranging views on each of the issues covered by Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders. Some people support them; some people do not. But there are two issues for which there is no dispute: first, that these Executive Orders have touched upon the lives of each of our thirteen million constituents; and second, that the Legislature, the Illinois Senate has a role in these types of decisions. The -- the very foundation of our republic relies upon a separation of powers, a system of checks and balances that is designed to provide oversight to each of the branches of government. The Governor, the head of the Executive Branch, is charged by our Constitution with executing and implementing those
laws which are passed by the Legislature. These are in fact two coequal branches of government. However, today, what is clear is that the two branches of government are not in fact working together. Instead, we are seeing countless act after act by the stroke of a pen of this Governor. And I look across the aisle to the many friends that I have on the other side of the aisle, each of you having been elected in your districts and representing your constituents in this Body, and I ask of you, when are we going to do our job in the Illinois Senate to represent our constituents? Our -- my constituents in my communities are crying out for us to do something while the Governor continues to act in a unilateral manner and place upon the people of this State the decisions not that we make as a Body, but the decisions that he makes on the second floor of this Capitol Building. I know all of you respect and value the institution which is the General Assembly and the institution which is this Body in the Illinois State Senate. And I implore to you, my friends on the other side of the aisle, let's demand that this Governor work with us as a Body, demonstrating mutual respect for the two coequal branches of government so that we can work together with him to solve the many problems that face our communities and our people in our State. But I am very sorry that this proposal before us today that purports to create the Restore Illinois Collaborative Commission, driven by the Governor, falls wildly short of those expectations that my constituents have for this Body. I urge a No vote. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator. Senator Sims, to close.

SENATOR SIMS:

Well -- thank -- thank you, Madam President. Let me address
a -- a couple of issues that I just heard. First, thank you for acknowledging the collaborative manner in which we are asking and demanding that the General Assembly play a role in the Restore Illinois plan. So I would -- I would -- I would -- I would ask you -- for the previous speaker, you should be reaching out to your Leader, because your Leader has three appointments on that Commission. So, if you are -- if you are interested in having a say in how that plan plays out, ask for the appointment to the Commission. That is how this Body will interact with that plan. There are legislative appointments to that Commission who will then be able to have a say on a monthly basis on how the plan plays out. We are not walking away from our responsibility. We are engaging; we are making sure that the plan plays out on behalf of all of our constituents. Let me also say this: More than eight in ten Americans are concerned about us reopening too fast - more than eight in ten. More than six in ten are concerned and -- that -- believe that people should still be confined to their homes. If we are going to -- none of us saw this pandemic coming, but if we are going to get back to what is normal, it is -- it has to be a measured reasonable approach to making sure that we put our State back on the path to safety. This bill allows us to do just that. It allows us to open our State back up reasonably. It allows us to protect public health and safety. That's what this bill does. If -- what our constituents are asking for is that we make sure that we are prepared not just for this pandemic, but, God forbid, the next one. This bill allows us to be forward-thinking. It allows us to make sure that we are prepared to do that. It allows us to make sure that we have continuity of government. That's what this plan does. And I appreciate the concerns of my friends
on the other side of the aisle. I know that you have your -- your constituents' best interests at heart, but I believe that this legislation does just that - it protects their health and their safety. It is up to us to continue to act in a manner that is responsible, in a manner that is reasonable, and for us to have continuing input in how the Restore Illinois plan plays out. We -- we are giving you that here today. So thank you so much and I would ask for a favorable roll call.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator Sims. The question is, shall the Senate concur in House Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 2135 -- excuse me, House Amendment Nos. 5, 6, and 9 to Senate Bill 2135. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Members. I'll start from the top. Anderson, Aquino, Barickman, Belt, Bennett, Bertino-Tarrant, Brady, Bush, Castro, and Crowe, please come to the Senate to vote. Curran, Feigenholtz, Manar, Martwick. Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 36 voting Yea, 29 -- 19 voting Nay - 19 voting Nay - 0 voting Present. Senate Bill 2135, having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendments No. 5, 6, and 9 to Senate Bill 2135, and the bill is declared passed. The Senate will recess -- the Senate will stand at ease.

(12:00 a.m. - May 24th, 2020)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the
House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit:

   Senate Bill 264.

   Together with the following amendment which is attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

   House Amendment 5 to Senate Bill 264.


PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

   Assignments will meet immediately in front of the Well. Assignments, please come to the front of the Well. Assignments, please, to meet immediately in front of the Well. Leader Martinez in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MARTINEZ)

   Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

   Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned:  Be Approved for Consideration - Motion to Concur with House Amendment 5 to Senate Bill 264.

Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR MARTINEZ)

   Leader Lightford in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

   The Senate will come to order. On the Order of Supplemental Calendar 5, Secretary's Desk, Concurrences, Senate Bill 264. President Harmon. Mr. Secretary, please read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:
I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendment No. 5 to Senate Bill 264. Signed by President Harmon.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

President Harmon, on the motion.

SENATOR HARMON:

...you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Senate Bill 264 is our operating budget. I have filed a motion to concur in the House amendments (sic) and I am so relieved to ask Senator Andy Manar to take it from here.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Manar, to explain the motion.

SENATOR MANAR:

Thank you, Madam President. Ladies and Gentlemen, I know the hour is late, so I will make a few brief summarizing remarks. This bill represents the FY'21 budget for the State of Illinois. I would summarize it by telling each of you that what we had in mind first and foremost was a response to the pandemic that -- that is afflicting our State. A couple of things to know right out of the gate: There are no assumptions of revenue from fair tax in this budget plan. That is a change from the Governor's introduced level. Number two, it cuts about a billion dollars from what the Governor introduced in February. Number three, I would argue that this budget has the most oversight, legislative oversight, in place, following the bills that we have passed, than any budget I've ever seen. I think that's an important note because there's so many moving pieces to this budget plan. And then, finally, it makes the full pension payment, which is a major investment of State resources, but it lives up to that obligation. Along the
way, we took into account things that need to happen in response to COVID. For example: There's increased staffing at IDES, at IDPH. There's a record amount of loans and grants for small businesses in the State. We restore funding to the -- the Local Government Distributive Fund, knowing that cities will put that money to good use. We think about things like the depopulation of animals at farms - that's how detailed we got in thinking about what response is needed in the coming fiscal year. We increase funding at the State Board of Elections. We double local public health protection grants so that they can be fully staffed and resourced, knowing that the pandemic will unfortunately be around for many, many months to come. We are directing incredible amounts of resources to disproportionately impacted populations, neighborhoods and communities of our fellow Illinoisans who have been disproportionately impacted by the spread of this disease. All in all, this bill appropriates just over forty-one billion dollars for spending. When you include the payback of some short-term borrowing from the current fiscal year, it's just shy of forty-three billion dollars. So, with that, Madam President, I'll pause and happy to take any questions regarding the proposal.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator. Is there any discussion? Senator McConchie, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR McCONCHIE:

Thank you, Madam President. In the interest of time, just straight to the motion.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the bill, Senator.
Thank you, Madam President. Thank you, Senator Manar. I'd like to echo the comments from earlier from Senator Rose in regards to the appreciation of the collaboration over the number of weeks that we've spent every day, first at 8 -- at 9 o'clock in the morning and then at -- every -- 8:30 every morning, to try to work through all the various segments of the budget. Really appreciated the collaboration that was there through this process. Unfortunately, this budget doesn't reflect what we were hoping to accomplish out of that budget. But just to go through a few facts that we are facing at the moment: unemployment rate of 16.4 percent, over one million people out of work, our projected revenues are to be down next year by over three billion dollars. In that environment, you would think that we would be cutting spending on nonessentials, as so many families have been forced to do across the State, in order to really focus the spending that we are able to do on those essentials. But, no, we don't reduce the spending given the low -- drop in revenue that we are expecting. We are going to expand it by nine hundred and seventy million dollars. As we mentioned earlier in previous discussions, borrowing five million dollars -- five billion dollars from the federal government, up to that amount, in the hopes -- the hope of a bailout from Washington, D.C. Now, given the uncertainty, the -- that we have, we could have done a three-month or a six-month budget, a short-term budget, and come back once the picture is clearer, instead of doing a full twelve-month budget based on numbers that we cannot by any possible imagination hope that we're anywhere near close to being accurate on. When we got down here, people were asking us to provide oversight, to exercise the power that we have in the legislative branch as a coequal branch with
the Governor, with his continual Executive Orders, the shutdown of
the State that has been going on, and the necessary things that
have come about because of this pandemic. And this week, we have
had every opportunity to do that, to rebalance the balance of power
between the legislative and executive branches, but instead we
ignored that and, even through this budget, we're actually going
the other way. We're increasing spending, we're increasing
borrowing, and we're going to have even less legislative oversight
than is normally the case of the Governor as we go forward. I --
I just find that to be outstanding -- astounding.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR McCONCHIE:

Right now, we have one person making decisions, governing the
everyday life of over twelve million people, and the Legislature
has failed to provide oversight and this budget gives him more
money to spend and more power to -- in decision in how to spend
it. You know -- don't let me forget that in the meantime, we're
also not blocking the automatic pay raise that would go into effect
for us. Now, while we are -- what we need to do is stay and do
our job and exercise the power that the people have given us --
they've placed in us to work together with the executive branch to
do this - do this through this budget and through the other
legislative mechanisms that we should be applying and should've
applied and done this week - not to abrogate instead our
responsibility while putting a little bit more in our pockets. I
strongly encourage a No vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Further discussion? Senator Righter, for what purpose do you
rise?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Madam President. To Senator Manar's motion, if I might.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the motion, Senator.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you very much, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I know the hour is late. I also will try to be brief. In my time here in the General Assembly, like many of you who have been here even for a much shorter period of time, one thing that you rarely ever see is something that appears to be entirely bad or something that is near perfect. And this budget is a perfect example of something that falls in that middle ground. Now, before I go any further, I would be remiss in not personally thanking Senator Manar, Senator Steans, the other Members of the -- of -- on the Democrat side of the aisle in the work group, and our side too, for the hours and hours and hours of Zoom meetings. I can assure all of you that while we may have failed to come to a bipartisan consensus agreement on this spending package, it absolutely was not for a lack of trying. The earnest discussions we had and I want to thank you, Senator Manar, for leading those discussions on your side, along with Senator Steans. I also recognize -- we all have to recognize that this is an enormously difficult time to try to put together a spending package. We are relying on forecasts. I don't want to say that we are guessing, but in many instances, we are looking at forecasts that we may have some confidence in but perhaps not much and, to some extent, we are - excuse the pun on the legislation that passed earlier -
we are gambling. We are gambling in this way, is that we are making the decision now, on May 23rd, without even having the benefit of the April revenue numbers, that we will have the money that this forecast says, and we need it because we are going to rely on that forecast and billions in borrowing -- hopefully, it's not the five that we talked about yesterday, but billions in borrowing - and then the third piece is, is that Washington is going to come through and pay off for us or pay off nearly all of that borrowing. Because if it does not, then that is something that we will have to repay and that will cause one of two things: a reshuffling in this budget or a tax increase. Senator Manar is exactly right that this budget does not directly rely upon or anticipate the graduated tax revenues like the Governor proposed in February - and we are grateful for that. We are grateful for that. We think it's a better product for that. But it is still an enormous gamble as we stand here on May 23rd. We all think about our vote on the budget and perhaps more -- and, just as importantly, when we go home to explain that vote to our constituents, and we all have our own mindset about what am I going to say about my Yes vote or my No vote. And, for me anyway, I think about the people that I'll be having that conversation with. Whether it's the schoolteacher to whom we will say, "It was a tough year; we didn't have any new money to give to public education". Will that teacher then come back to me and say, "Well, you know what, I read some information and the budget appears to spend about over nine hundred million dollars more than -- next -- next year than you are this year. So you found some money for some people, but you couldn't find it for us"? Or the business owner, who is shut down now and hopes to reopen at some point but is concerned
that when he or she does what are their unemployment insurance rates going to look like - because they don't know exactly what that's going to be, but they know for sure they're going to be much, much higher. And they're going to say, "Well, what if the federal government doesn't completely bail Illinois out? Then is there going to be a tax increase that I get to pay on top of the unemployment insurance rates that are going to go up?" Or the retired lady down the street, who's going to ask me, "Senator Righter," - I'll talk about pain and sacrifice and the maintenance budget and preserving what's important to us - "but I'm reading in the paper that the General Assembly didn't put anything in the budget to push back on the pay raise that's coming your way. Really? Maintenance, preservation, no new money for schools - really? But you're going to get a little more." Some people would say, "Well, that's an optics problem, right? That's a political problem. Okay, we'll deal with that." No, it's bigger than that. Some would argue that's a respect issue, that's a priority issue. It doesn't matter what poll you look at, elected officials in Springfield are held in pretty low regard. Now, I think they're held in lower regard than what they've earned. I think we do better than what a lot of people give us credit for. But a pay raise at this point in time absolutely does not reflect those -- those better angels that we all have. Respectfully, I would urge a No vote. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENIOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator. Senator Villanueva, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

Does the sponsor yield?
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Sponsor indicates he will yield. Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

Thank you, Madam President. I have a couple of very quick questions, Senator. The first one: How will the nursing home allocation of the State's COVID relief funds be treated in relationship to federal COVID relief funds?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Manar.

SENATOR MANAR:

Thank you for the question. As you know, Senator, there are two -- two separate streams of funding. There's State funding and there's federal funding from the CARES Act in response to COVID. The federal response requirements and State COVID response requirements have contributed to the significant financial burden placed on nursing homes. We're still learning about the CARES Act. I think even the previous speaker would admit that that has been a struggle for us throughout budget negotiating. We estimate that it will take funds from both of these streams, State and federal government, to meet those costs. And we should be prepared to provide additional aid as needed throughout the year. There are federal and State funding sources with separate requirements.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

Thank you, Senator Manar. My second question is, it's my understanding that this budget was carefully crafted with the intent to prevent any layoffs in State government. Is that correct?
PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Manar.

SENATOR MANAR:

It is correct, and I -- I would -- I would piggyback off of the previous speaker's remarks. There's a good reason for that; we have sixteen percent unemployment today in this State. So we made the conscious choice to not reduce personal services lines in agency budgets to avoid layoffs, to not contribute to further economic decline in the State as a result of coronavirus.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Villanueva.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

...bill, very quickly.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

To the bill, Senator.

SENATOR VILLANUEVA:

I wanted to take this moment to thank Senator Manar, Senator Steans, Senator Aquino, Senator Sims, and all the budgeteers who put in so many countless hours on this bill and on this budget and who took such time and effort to think about disproportionately impacted communities, speaking as the Senator who represents I think four out of the five top ZIP codes of COVID-positive cases, as we hope to see the future impact of where these moneys will hopefully go to help repair or at least help support the individuals in my communities, the families in my communities that are being hit very hard by this. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the work that you all put in and the thought that you all put in for those of us who are drowning. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER:  (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)
Further discussion? Senator Cunningham, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:
To the motion.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)
To the motion, Senator.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:
Thank you, Madam President. As you know, earlier today our colleague Senator Martwick briefly joined us in the building to be available in case his vote was needed. He has since gone back home. He could not be with us here on the Floor due to some underlying medical concerns. He did ask that I briefly read this statement on his behalf. Senator Martwick believes the passage of this budget is essential and is in full support of our efforts. The Legislature's come together to make the best of a tremendously challenging time and has crafted a responsible budget that ensures we make both full payments of our debts and pension obligations and allows our State to continue to provide essential services, especially for those who have been so devastated by this crisis. He urges the passage of this budget and looks forward to seeing and working with us all again very soon. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)
Thank you, Senator Cunningham. Leader Brady, for what purpose do you rise? No? President Harmon, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HARMON:
To the motion, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)
To the motion, Senator.
SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentleman of the Senate. I wanted to arise just to emphasize one portion of the bill. For the first time since before the budget impasse, the General Assembly is not withholding any portion of the Local Government Distributive Fund. This is an important issue. It is one that Leader Brady emphasized to me early on was very important to members of his caucus. And upon reflection, we, Senate Democrats and Members of the House, agreed that it was an important thing to do - for very much the same reasons I mentioned on the Floor yesterday. In a situation like this, it is the time that government has to spend money to keep the economy going, to keep people working. And for us, today, to add to the moneys that are going to our counties, our villages, our towns, and our cities, it is an important demonstration of our belief that that money spent locally will help protect people from this virus and will help keep people working. So I thank Senator Manar and all the budgeteers for the work that they have done in putting this entire package together - Senator Steans and Senator Sims, Senator Ellman and Senator Aquino. It is a great team, but I ask you for your Aye votes to validate all of their hard work.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

   Senator Manar, to close.

SENATOR MANAR:

Thank you, Madam President. I appreciate the debate at this late hour. I would like to echo President Harmon's remarks to Senator Steans, Senator Sims, Senator Aquino, and Senator Ellman. We did a lot of work over the last many weeks - many weeks. And to Senator Rose, Senator McConchie, and Senator Righter, to say
that our discussions were cordial would be an understatement. I found them productive. Whether this makes you happy that I'm going to say it, I'm going to say it anyway - much of this document reflects your input. It does. It reflects your input because we value it. But I will say this, this -- this was a choice we made. We made a choice not to present a budget to this Chamber that slashes the State budget at a time when we're dealing with a global pandemic. That was our choice. That was a simple choice for me, because the last thing we need to be doing is cutting public health programs, cutting health care programs, cutting school funding, cutting programs for small businesses, or cutting pensions, or laying off State employees. That was the choice we had to make. So the alternative to that is this. And Senator Righter is correct in that there's a lot of unknowns here, but -- but it's -- it makes sense. It makes sense in terms of what we know today. We know we're going to get money from the CARES Act. That's in here. We know we're going to get additional federal funding at some point in time. We anticipate that. We know that there could be a gap in that funding somewhere so we put in motion some borrowing, a short-term borrowing mechanism that the federal government has provided us, which was a bipartisan agreement by the Trump administration, the Democrats in the House and Republicans in the Senate. That's it. That's what we know today and that's what we put in this bill, and we preserve what we need to preserve at a time when we need to preserve it really, really bad in this State. So that's this budget scenario. There is no pay raise paid for in this budget. I need to say that on the record. This budget appropriates the same amount of money as the current fiscal year. It does not pay for a pay raise for the Legislature. One more
time - it does not provide an increased appropriation to raise the pay of legislators. That was a choice we made as well, for obvious reasons. This was a difficult task this year. It was a difficult task. But we think this puts us on good footing going into the fiscal year given all the challenges that we face. I ask for an Aye vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Thank you, Senator. The question is, shall the Senate concur in House -- in House -- no, this is a Senate bill -- oh, House Amendment 5 -- excuse me, House Amendment 5 to Senate Bill 264. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Senator Belt, Senator T. Cullerton. Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 37 voting Yea, 19 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Senate Bill 261, having received the required -- House Amendment No. 5 to Senate Bill 264, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted the following joint resolution, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Joint Resolution 1.

(Secretary reads HJR No. 1)


PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, although we'll be closing out Special Session, please stay put. We have another measure in regular Session. So we're going to close out Special Session and we have another item in regular Session. On the Order of Resolutions is House Joint Resolution 1. Mr. Secretary, please read the resolution.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Joint Resolution 1, offered by Senator Cunningham.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LIGHTFORD)

Senator Cunningham moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of the immediate consideration and adoption of House Joint Resolution 1. Those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Cunningham moves for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 1. All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. There being no further business to come before the Senate, pursuant to House Joint Resolution 1, the Senate stands adjourned – First Special Session – until the call of the Senate President. The Senate stands adjourned.