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#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The regular Session of the 89th General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desks and our guests in the galleries please rise. Our prayer today will be given by Dr. Roger Compton, Central Baptist Church, Springfield, Illinois. Dr. Compton.

DR. ROGER COMPTON:

(Prayer by Dr. Roger Compton)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Will you please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Sieben)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

...Geo-Karis, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

For a point of personal privilege, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

State -- state your point.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

I'm delighted to have with us today one of my constituents and one of the finest fire chiefs in all of the State of Illinois, Fire Chief David McAdams, from the -- the City of Zion Fire Department. And I ask you to welcome him here for me.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Thank you. Welcome to the Senate, Chief. ... Butler. Reading of the Journal.

SENATOR BUTLER:

Mr. President, I move that reading and approval of the Journal of Tuesday, March 5th, in the year 1996, be -- be postponed, pending arrival of the printed Journal.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

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Senator Butler moves to approve -- moves to postpone the reading and the approval of the Journal, pending the arrival of the printed transcript. There being no objections, so ordered. Messages from the Governor.

# SECRETARY HARRY:

Message from the Governor.

Executive Order No. 1, 1996 - An Executive Order changing the name of the Commissioner of Banks and Trust Companies to the Office of Banks and Real Estate and transferring to it the rights, powers, duties and functions of the Office of the Commissioner of Savings and Residential Finance.

Submitted this date by the Honorable Jim Edgar, Governor.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Messages from the House.

#### SECRETARY HARRY:

Message from the House by Mr. McLennand, 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 93.

Offered by Senator Weaver.

(Secretary reads HJR No. 93)

Adopted by the House, March 6th, 1996.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Weaver moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of the immediate consideration and adoption of House Joint Resolution 93. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Now, Senator Weaver moves for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 93. Those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. Ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. ...following Senators have been

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appointed as a -- of five for -- to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, Jim Edgar. They are Senator Bomke, Senator DeAngelis, Senator Raica, Senator Severns and Senator Trotter. All Members are encouraged to be in the House at noon for the Governor's Budget Message. The Senate will stand at ease until after the Governor's Message is concluded.

(SENATE STANDS AT EASE)

# (SENATE RECONVENES)

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senate will come to order. Committee Reports.

#### SECRETARY HARRY:

Senator Rauschenberger, Chair of the Committee on Appropriations, reports Senate Bills 1757 and 1758 Do Pass.

Senator Fawell, Chair of the Committee on Transportation, reports Senate Bills 1437, 1442, 1764 and 1769 Do Pass; and Senate Bills 1315, 1448, 1762, 1763 and 1770 Do Pass, as Amended.

Senator Cronin, Chair of the Committee on Education, reports Senate Bills 1363 and 1854 Do Pass; and Senate Bills 1418, 1785 and 1853 Do Pass, as Amended.

Senator Burzynski, Chair of the Committee on Executive Appointments, reports Senate Bill 1781 Do Pass.

Senator Sieben, Chair of the Committee on State Government Operations, reports Senate Bill 1814 Do Pass; Senate Bills 1389 and 1712 Do Pass, as Amended; and Senate Bill 454, the Motion to Concur with House Amendment 1, Be Adopted.

And Senator Hawkinson, Chair of the Committee on Judiciary, reports Senate Bills 1320, 1459, 1467, 1470, 1643, 1665, 1666,

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1684 and 1748 Do Pass; and Senate Bills 522, 1296, 1300, 1353, 1354, 1501, 1518, 1527, 1650, 1691, 1746, 1747, 1773, 1796, 1805, 1823, 1877 and 1912 Do Pass, as Amended.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Messages from the House.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Message from the House by Mr. McLennand, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed bills of the following titles, in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Bills 2660 and 3165.

Passed the House, March 5th, 1996.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Bill 1918, offered by Senators Watson and Demuzio.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

House Bills 1st Reading.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2626, offered by Senator Weaver.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And Senate {sic} Bill 2665, offered by Senator Sieben.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senator Weaver, Chair of the Committee on Rules, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Referred to

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the Committee on Executive - Senate Joint Resolution 76, 78 and 80, and House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 32, to the Executive Committee.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Messages.

SECRETARY HARRY:

A Message from the Minority Leader.

Dear Mr. Secretary - Pursuant to Senate Rule 3-5(c) of the Illinois Senate of the 89th General Assembly, please be advised that Senator John Cullerton will replace Senator Arthur Berman on the Senate Rules Committee.

Submitted this date by Senator Jones.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senate will please come to order. Conference Committee Report, the top of page 7. House Bill 32. Senator Butler. Mr. Secretary, do you have a file -- a conference committee report on House Bill 32?

SECRETARY HARRY:

First Conference Committee Report on House Bill 32, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Butler.

SENATOR BUTLER:

Thank you -- thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and Gentlemen, you have before you the First Conference Committee Report on House Bill 32. We now find that it needs more work, and I'm requesting a Second Conference Committee and would appreciate your Negative or Present vote on the First Conference Committee.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall the Senate adopt Conference Committee
No. 1 on House Bill 32. All those in favor, signify by saying
Aye. Those opposed, Nay. Oh! We've got to vote? Okay. Okay.

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Those in favor, vote Aye. Those opposed, vote Nay. The voting is open. Take the record. ...the question, the Ayes are 5, the Nays are 27, 5 voting Present. The Conference Committee Report is not adopted, and the Secretary shall so inform the House. The sponsor requests a Second Conference Committee Report. Senator Smith, for what purpose do you rise?

#### SENATOR SMITH:

Mr. President, I merely wanted to report that my machine did not come up on the -- button - the red button. I meant to vote No.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Okay. The record will so indicate, Senator.

#### SENATOR SMITH:

Thank you, sir. Thank you.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

House Bill 2349. House Bill 2349. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 19. Senator O'Malley. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary. SECRETARY HARRY:

First Conference Committee Report on Senate Bill 19.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator O'Malley.

# SENATOR O'MALLEY:

Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. The First Conference Committee Report to Senate Bill 19 calls for the Senate to concur with House Amendment 51, which is the version of charter schools as discussed in the House last year, but further amends the legislation to make three changes...

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Could we please have some order. This is a conference committee. It's final passage. Could we please have some order. Thank you.

# SENATOR O'MALLEY:

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The first change provides that teachers returning to the district following a leave of absence to work at a charter school must be assigned to a position that requires the teacher's certification and legal qualifications. The second change deletes — obsolete language that said January 9th, 1996, is the deadline for submitting charter proposals for 1996. And the third change adds technical language that updates references to several — several higher education Statutes to reflect changes made by the higher ed reorganization bill from last year. Be happy to answer any questions you may have. I — I would only say at this point, however, that this legislation is very similar to the previous debates we've had on the Floor concerning charter schools, with those three major changes.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Berman.

SENATOR BERMAN:

Question of the sponsor.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The sponsor indicates he'll answer. Senator Berman.

SENATOR BERMAN:

Senator, are we going to move Senate Bill -- House Bill 226 after this one?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator O'Malley.

SENATOR O'MALLEY:

Yes. We -- that is the intention of -- of the sponsor, Senator Berman.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? Further discussion? If not, Senator O'Malley, to close.

SENATOR O'MALLEY:

Again, with those three changes, this is substantially what's

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been before the Senate before, and I would appreciate your support, as you supported us last year. Thank you.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall the Senate adopt the Conference Committee Report on Senate Bill 19. All those in favor, signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have vou all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 49 Yeas, 7 Nays, 1 voting Senate does adopt Conference Committee No. 1 on Senate Bill 19. That bill, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. House Bills 3rd Reading, on the top of page 6. House Bill 115. Senator Dudycz. House Bill 115. Senator Dudycz. Take it out of the record. Senate {sic} Bill 226. Senator O'Mallev. Read the bill. Secretary.

#### SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 226.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator O'Malley.

# SENATOR O'MALLEY:

Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. Senate Amendment 2 to House Bill 226 became the trailer legislation - the first trailer legislation - for charter schools. The language in the amendment requires charter schools to get the approval of the local school board prior to applying for or accepting grants from public sources, whether they be federal, State or local. Be happy to answer any questions there may be.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Bowles. Senator Bowles.

#### SENATOR BOWLES:

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise for a point of personal privilege.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

State your point.

#### SENATOR BOWLES:

In the balcony to my right are some constituents from my area. The Village Clerk Deanna Barnes, who's the Village Clerk of Hartford. And along with her is Jim Hanke, the Engineer for the Village of Hartford.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Would they please rise to be recognized by the Senate. Further discussion? Further discussion? Senator O'Malley, to close.

# SENATOR O'MALLEY:

Again, thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. I'd appreciate your support. Again, this is the first trailer legislation associated with charter schools, and I hope you will support it, as you did the principal bill. Thank you.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall House Bill 226 pass. Those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 51 Yeas, 6 Nays, none voting Present. House Bill 226, having received the required ...Bills 3rd constitutional majority, is declared passed. Reading. Senate Bill 542. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1239. Senator Cronin. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1240. Senator Cronin. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1251. Senator Hawkinson. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1264. Senator Peterson. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1268. Senator Syverson. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1288. Take it out of the record. Senator Klemm. Senate

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Bill 1319. Senator Weaver. Senator Weaver. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1323. Senator Petka. Senator Petka. Take it out of the record. Senator O'Daniel, for what purpose do you rise?

# SENATOR O'DANIEL:

Mr. President, I'd like to be recorded as voting Aye on Senate Bill 19. I was away from my desk and inadvertently voted Present. PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator, that will -- the Secretary will be instructed to record you as voting Aye. 1338. Senator Weaver. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1342. Senator Bowles. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary. Senator Bowles. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

Senate Bill 1342.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Hendon, for what purpose do you rise? SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you, Mr. President. I was off the Senate Floor on the charter school bill, and somebody voted me Aye, I understand. And I don't want anybody pushing my damn button, period, on no bill, especially voting me Aye on no charter school bill. Will you please record me as voting No. And whoever punched my button, I don't appreciate it, because you know I'm against charter schools. PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The record will so indicate. Senator Bowles.

# SENATOR BOWLES:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senate Bill 1342 was a bill that went out of the Senate last year with not a single negative vote. The provisions of the bill: to amend the Use of Intoxicating Compounds Act, in that we had a situation in my district where the

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youngsters ingested and also smoked and inhaled the products of a jimsonweed. It's a deadly, deadly intoxicant and hallucinogenic. And I would ask that you please support this bill. It is -- I present it upon the advice and -- and concern of the State's Attorney of Madison County. Thank you.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Is there any further discussion? Any further discussion? If not, Senator Bowles, to close.

#### SENATOR BOWLES:

I would ask for a positive vote, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Thank you. The question is, shall Senate Bill 1342 pass. in favor will vote Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 59 Ayes, no Nays, no voting Present. Senate Bill 1342, having received the constitutional majority, is declared passed. Senate Bill 1360. Senator Luechtefeld. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1361. Senator Luechtefeld. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1385. Senator Sieben. Senator Sieben. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1388. Senator Geo-Karis. Take it out of the Senate Bill 1391. record. Senator Mahar. Take it out of the record. Senate Bill 1394. Senator Luechtefeld. Take it out of Senate Bill 1402. Senator DeAngelis. Take it out of the record. Senator Klemm. Take it out of the the record. Senate Bill 1403. record. Senate Bill 1404. Senator Klemm. Take it out of the Senate Bill 1408. Senator Lucchtefeld. record. Senate Bill 1463. Senator Rauschenberger. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

# SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Bill 1463.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

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# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

# SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Senate Bill 1463 changes the provisions for home rule communities and requires that if they implement a new real estate transfer tax increase an existing one, that they have to have a public or hearing and go to referendum. Municipal taxation in the State of Illinois, even allowed under home rule, basically falls into three There are general taxes, both public utility taxes categories. and sales taxes, that are generally collected and understood by the -- by populations. In addition to those, there's privilege taxes, like impact fees or building permits, things where the people are requesting specific special privileges from the municipality. In only one case that I'm aware of do we tax a basic right; that's the right to transfer property. bill's constructed in such a way that it does not interfere with municipalities that have already implemented an impact fee -- or a It simply says, if they want to real estate transfer tax. increase it, they have to hold a public hearing and then go to referendum. Any home rule municipality that wants to impose a new one would have to hold a public hearing and go to referendum. It's a fairly simple bill. The question is whether we meant to permit the taxing of a right, rather than a privilege or a general I urge favorable consideration of this bill.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobson -- Senator Jacobs.

# SENATOR JACOBS:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate.

Would the sponsor yield for a question?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Indicates he will. Senator Jacobs.

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SENATOR JACOBS:

Does this preempt home rule?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

...certainly does.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Yes, it will take thirty-six votes. Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

I just guess, you know -- I guess my only qualms would be, we're in the midst right now of -- of introducing a constitutional amendment that will prohibit us from mandating to local governments, and here we are starting right off again mandating something on local governments, and -- 'cause it does preempt home rule. In -- in as much it preempts, it mandates.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

Well, to answer what wasn't a question with an answer: We had -- there was a mandate request made; it is not a mandate to change this rule. And we're -- we're talking about the basic right to how they have to levy a tax. It's -- it's not a mandate on the municipalities.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Geo-Karis.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Sponsor yield for a question? Will the...

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Indicates that he will.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Senator, my understanding is that no county or municipality under your bill can enact or increase the real estate transfer tax

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not only without notice and hearing, but also requires a front-door referendum for approval. Is that correct?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

# SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

That -- that's precisely correct. Excuse me for not explaining it better in my summation.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Geo-Karis.

#### SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, this does not increase taxes. This gives us the opportunity, for instance, in my municipality, if I don't want to see a real estate tax enacted, it — it gives us a right of — not only of the hearing but a referendum, and then the voters of my municipality would have to vote on it. I think this is a good safeguard, because there are municipalities that have already instituted transfer taxes; for instance, the City of Highland Park charges five dollars per thousand. So you can well imagine how — how costly that can be. So I think this is the only safeguard we have, is through this bill, and I rise to speak in favor of it. PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Palmer.

# SENATOR PALMER:

Thank you, Mr. President. A question of the sponsor.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Indicates he'll yield. Senator Palmer.

#### SENATOR PALMER:

Senator Rauschenberger, how does this affect taxes that are already in place, and especially in home rule cities?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

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# SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

There -- there's no affect. It exempts any -- you know, any municipality that already has a real estate transfer tax can continue to levy it and collect it just as it always has. The only limitation is if they decide to raise it, they fall under the provisions of the bill. They would have to have a hearing on the increase and then a referendum.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Palmer.

SENATOR PALMER:

What qualifies as an increase? Does that include surcharges? PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

It would be -- yeah. It would be clearly my understanding that any increase in the rate would -- would be an increase and they would have to go to referendum, including a surcharge, I think.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Cullerton.

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Yes. Just wanted to follow up, if the sponsor would yield.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Indicates he will, Senator.

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Was -- was the bill ever amended to make it clearer that it would not -- it was prospective only, or -- because our analysis indicates to the contrary? And I just want to make it clear in my own mind.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Rauschenberger.

SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

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Senator, there's been no amendment to the bill. Our understanding and our reading of the bill is that it's clearly prospective. We are happy though, as this makes its way through the process, to -- to speak to legislative intent. It's intended to be prospective. There's -- intended to have no affect on those municipalities that already levy at their current rate, as long as they don't increase. And if we need to make a correction in the House, we're -- we're -- the sponsor is certainly willing to do that.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Butler.

#### SENATOR BUTLER:

To the bill: Ladies and Gentlemen, I think we ought to think about this. I know when you insert the word "tax" on anything, it has a certain onus that is pretty hard to shake. But in my own experience, my community has a -- a real estate transfer tax, and the purpose of it is to be certain that the property, by itself, meets all standards of the -- of the community; that is, all the -- all of the zoning and all of the building requirements. literally caught dozens of -- of transfers, before they happen, where there were garages in the wrong place, various forms of of -- against local zoning. I think this is a -- it is not a -- a raiser, by a long shot, for most communities. It merely gives them a tool by which they can -- they can be certain that their local ordinances are being met. I would -- I would vote against this.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jones. Senator Jones.

#### SENATOR JONES:

Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor. I think most of the questions have already been answered. I know it does preempt home rule, and the bill is flawed, by the words of the -- of the sponsor. But to

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go even further than that, this is a mandate on local government, when it's a mandate in the context that you are dictating to -- to local government what they can do and since it does require an extraordinary majority. And I would urge the Members to take a very serious look at this bill, because it slipped out of committee, and I don't think the Members of that committee really knew what they were really voting on. This is a bill that's going to have profound effect on local government, and especially home rule units. So, I would urge a No vote on this bill.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Klemm.

# SENATOR KLEMM:

Speaker, to the bill. When the bill came to Thank you, Mr. our committee, it was pretty clear to, I think, all the Members of the committee that it was not going affect those municipalities who already enacted this transfer tax, but certainly we were cognizant of the fact that some municipalities have enacted ten-dollar-per-thousand transfer tax. You know. on а hundred-thousand-dollar home, that's a thousand dollars that the home seller -- has to pay - a thousand dollars. That's a lot of money to a lot of people in our communities. And a lot of seniors are selling their homes and this is just extra dollars that they are paying. And as the assessor comes out and reassesses our that's just a windfall because now their paying over a thousand dollars. It was getting almost beyond the -- the scope of what Senator Butler had said, and -- and I can understand where the municipalities would want that information, to see that the ordinances and all the health codes are followed. But when you get past the fifty cents a thousand and go up to that, we're getting beyond reasonableness. And I think Rauschenberger has done -- convince the committee that it is the right thing for the homeowners and the taxpayers to do. And it

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doesn't stop it. If it's really necessary, they can pass it and they can do it on the referendum. And I stand in support of the bill.

# PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Any further questions? If not, Senator Rauschenberger, to close.

# SENATOR RAUSCHENBERGER:

Just -- just very briefly, I'd like to -- to speak to the concerns that were raised by Senator Jones. If -- if bills like this, where we change the policy of the State of Illinois, are mandates, we had all better think very carefully about signing on to that mandate amendment. If this is a small sample of what we're going to have to discuss every time we change State policy, then -- then we really do have a problem dealing with that mandate amendment. This -- this bill allows those municipalities that have transfer taxes to continue to have them. It just requires a referendum if they want to raise them and requires a referendum if they want to implement a new one. This bill has wide support. The Taxpayers' Federation supports this. The Illinois Association -the Realtors' Association supports this. This is a good bill. It's good for taxpayers. It's certainly good for senior citizens who try to transfer their houses. It's tax relief. I urge a favorable roll call.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall Senate Bill 1463 pass. Those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 43 Ayes, 12 Nays, 4 voting Present. Senate Bill 1463, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. On the top of page 6, House Bills 3rd Reading. House Bill 115. Senator Dudycz. Take it out of the record. Senate —

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House Bill 2251. Senator DeAngelis. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary. SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2251.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator DeAngelis.

SENATOR DEANGELIS:

Thank you, Mr. -- Mr. President. Senate Amendment No. 4, which we enacted last week, is, in fact, the bill. And it talked about the proposed changes in the bill and in the Comptroller's Office. We discussed them at great length. I'll be very happy to go over them again, if you'd like, or if you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer. If not, I would choose that we...

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Any further discussion? Any further discussion? If not, Senator DeAngelis, to close.

SENATOR DEANGELIS:

Just ask for a favorable roll call.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall House Bill 2251 pass. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. 56 Ayes, no Nays, no voting Present. House Bill 2251, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Senator Mahar, for what purpose do you rise? SENATOR MAHAR:

For a -- for the purpose of an announcement.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Make your announcement.

SENATOR MAHAR:

The Senate Environment and Energy Committee will be meeting

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tomorrow morning, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 400.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Thank you, Senator Mahar. Senator Madigan...

SENATOR MADIGAN:

Thank you...

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

...for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR MADIGAN:

Purpose of an announcement, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Make your announcement.

SENATOR MADIGAN:

The Senate Insurance Committee that is scheduled for 2 o'clock, in Room 400, will meet at 2:30, in Room 400. And I would ask for the Republican Members of that committee to meet in my office immediately upon adjournment.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

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

SENATOR COLLINS:

Yes. I apologize. I was engaged in a conversation on another bill, and I would have voted Aye on Senate {sic} Bill 2251 - the last bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The record will so indicate. Senator Cullerton.

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. Senator Madigan indicated that Members — the Republican Members of the Insurance Committee are to meet in his office prior to committee. I would like to have the Democratic Members meet in his office, as well, so we can find out what's going to go on. PRESIDENT PHILIP:

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Thank you, Senator Cullerton. Senator Klemm.

#### SENATOR KLEMM:

Just an announcement, that we had to continue the Local Government and Elections Committee. That will continue after the Executive Committee and, I think, Human Services over in the Stratton Building completes. It'll be about fourish. So those Members and those who have bills there, we'll be continuing at that time.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Raica, for what purpose do you rise?

#### SENATOR RAICA:

Committee announcement, Mr. President.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Make your announcement.

#### SENATOR RAICA:

At 2 o'clock, the Public Health Committee will be meeting in Room A-1 in the Stratton. Just prior to that or immediate -- at 2 o'clock, in A-1 of the Stratton.

#### PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Thank you, Senator Raica. If there's no further business to come before the Senate, Senator Weaver moves the Senate stand adjourned until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 7th.

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