

STATE OF ILLINOIS



HOUSE JOURNAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

11TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

REGULAR & PERFUNCTORY SESSION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

12:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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11th Legislative Day**

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The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Representative Evans in the chair.

Prayer by Reverend Dr. G. Joseph Mitchell, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in DeKalb, Illinois.

Representative La Ha led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

By direction of the Speaker, a roll call was taken to ascertain the attendance of Members, as follows:

112 present. (ROLL CALL 1)

By unanimous consent, Representatives Costa Howard, Guzzardi, Jiménez, Jones and Stava-Murray were excused from attendance.

REQUEST TO BE SHOWN ON QUORUM

Having been absent when the Quorum Roll Call for Attendance was taken, this is to advise you that I, Representative Stava-Murray, should be recorded as present at the hour of 12:30 o'clock p.m.

Having been absent when the Quorum Roll Call for Attendance was taken, this is to advise you that I, Representative Guzzardi, should be recorded as present at the hour of 1:56 o'clock p.m.

REPORTS

The Clerk of the House acknowledges receipt of the following correspondence:

2025 Lease vs Own Repot, submitted by the State Of Illinois Central Management Services on February 21, 2025

BWC Annual Report 2025, submitted by the Wilmette Police Department on February 24, 2025

2024 MCSP Body Cam Report., submitted by the MCLEAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE on February 25, 2025

EIU Single Audit, submitted by the OAG on February 25, 2025

IHDA Single Audit Report FY24, submitted by the OAG on February 25, 2025

ISU Single Audit Report FY24, submitted by the OAG on February 25, 2025

OSAD Report FY24, submitted by the OAG on February 25, 2025

OSFM24 report, submitted by the Office Of The Illinois State Fire Marshal on February 25, 2025

SAAP Report FY25, submitted by the OAG on February 25, 2025

LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL

February 24, 2025

John Hollman
Clerk of the House
Room 400, Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

[February 25, 2025]

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Dear Clerk Hollman,

Please be advised of the following appointments to the Subcommittee of the Gaming Committee by Minority Spokesperson, Brad Stephens.

Gaming Subcommittee

Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Brad Stephens and Representative Ryan Spain-

Sincerely,

s/Representative Brad Stephens
Representative Brad Stephens
Minority Spokesperson, Gaming Committee

February 24, 2025

John Hollman
Clerk of the House
Room 402, Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 60701

Dear Clerk Hollman,

Pursuant to House Rule 14, please allow this correspondence to serve as notification that I am creating the following subcommittees for the Judiciary Criminal Committee. Following the name of the subcommittee, I am outlining the number of members the subcommittee will have and the appointments I am making to the subcommittee. The Minority Spokesperson of the Committee, Representative Windhorst, will make the minority appointments. The committees and appointments are as follows:

Criminal Administration and Enforcement Subcommittee

- Composition of the Subcommittee: 4 Democratic members and 2 Republican members.
- Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Slaughter, Sub-Committee Chair, Representative Cassidy, Representative Olickal, and Representative Lisa Davis.

Weapons and Weapon Safety Subcommittee

- Composition of the Subcommittee: 4 Democratic members and 2 Republican members.
- Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Slaughter, Sub-Committee Chair, Representative Cassidy, Representative Morgan, and Representative González Jr.

Juvenile Justice and Systems Involving Youth Subcommittee

- Composition of the Subcommittee: 4 Democratic members and 2 Republican members.
- Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Slaughter, Sub-Committee Chair, Representative Cassidy, Representative González Jr., and Representative Lisa Davis.

Sentencing, Penalties, and Criminal Subcommittee

- Composition of the Subcommittee: 4 Democratic members and 2 Republican members.
- Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Slaughter, Sub-Committee Chair, Representative Cassidy, Representative Olickal, and Representative Lisa Davis.

Sex Offenses and Sex Offender Registry Subcommittee

- Composition of the Subcommittee: 4 Democratic members and 2 Republican members.
- Appointments to the Subcommittee: Representative Slaughter, Sub-Committee Chair, Representative Cassidy, Representative Vella, and Representative Guzzardi.

Sincerely,

s/Justin Slaughter
Justin Slaughter
Chairperson, Judicial Criminal

February 24, 2025

John Hollman
Clerk of the House
Room 420, Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Clerk Hollman,

Pursuant to House Rule 14, please allow this correspondence to serve as notification that I am creating the following sub-committee for the Health Care Availability & Accessibility Committee. Following the name of each Sub-committee I am outlining the number of members each sub-committee will have and the appointments I am making to the subcommittee. The Minority Spokesman of the Committee, Representative Haas, will make the minority appointments. The committee and appointments are as follows:

Prescription Drug Affordability Board

- Composition of the Sub-Committee: Two (2) Democratic members and One (1) Republican member.
- Appointments to the Sub-committee: Sub-Committee Chair; Representative Syed, Representative Huynh.

Sincerely,

s/Natalie A. Manley
Natalie A. Manley
Chair, Health Care Availability & Accessibility Committee

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative Hoffman replaced Representative Buckner in the Committee on Rules on February 25, 2025.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Representative Gabel, Chairperson, from the Committee on Rules to which the following were referred, action taken on February 25, 2025, reported the same back with the following recommendations:

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE:

- Adoption & Child Welfare: HOUSE BILLS 1797, 1823, 1872, 1912 and 2415.
- Agriculture & Conservation: HOUSE BILLS 1847, 1902, 2339, 2340, 2410, 2427 and 2430.
- Appropriations-Elementary & Secondary Education: HOUSE BILLS 1830, 1861, 1879, 1925 and 2365.
- Appropriations-Health and Human Services: HOUSE BILLS 1784, 1862, 1868, 1881, 1922, 2341, 2347, 2353, 2364, 2369, 2428 and 2429 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1272 and House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1330.

Appropriations-Pensions & Personnel: HOUSE BILLS 2332, 2378 and 2443.

Appropriations-Public Safety and Infrastructure: HOUSE BILLS 1774, 1808, 1883, 1884, 1930 and 2385.

Child Care Accessibility & Early Childhood: HOUSE BILLS 1838 and 2420.

Cities & Villages: HOUSE BILLS 1753 and 1842.

Consumer Protection: HOUSE BILLS 1763, 1865, 2338 and 2435.

Counties & Townships: HOUSE BILLS 1831, 1878, 1911, 1938, 2354 and 2355 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 32.

Education Policy: HOUSE BILLS 1783, 1787, 1891, 1926, 2337, 2381, 2390 and 2407.

Elementary & Secondary Education: Administration, Licensing & Charter Schools: HOUSE BILL 1869.

Energy & Environment: HOUSE BILLS 1873, 1876, 1880, 1893, 1897, 2366, 2380, 2391 and 2419 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1175.

Ethics & Elections: HOUSE BILLS 1848, 1860, 1870, 1894, 1901, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 2330, 2331, 2376, 2399, 2413 and 2431.

Executive: HOUSE BILLS 1777, 1804, 1811, 1815, 1851, 1855, 1856, 1866, 1890, 1908, 1920, 2334, 2343, 2352, 2370, 2374, 2384 and 2421.

Financial Institutions and Licensing: House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1700.

Gaming: HOUSE BILL 2342.

Gun Violence Prevention: HOUSE BILL 2406.

Health Care Licenses: HOUSE BILLS 1795, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1887, 2373 and 2417 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1270.

Higher Education: HOUSE BILLS 1809, 1859, 1932 and 2351 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1430.

Housing: HOUSE BILLS 1813, 1814, 1843 and 2411.

Human Services: HOUSE BILLS 1755, 1895, 2375, 2398, 2418 and 2423 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1108 and House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1124.

Immigration & Human Rights: HOUSE BILLS 1929 and 2436.

Insurance: HOUSE BILLS 1770, 1782, 1857, 1864, 1918, 1931, 2371, 2425 and 2440 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1076, House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1141 and House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1360.

Judiciary - Civil: HOUSE BILLS 1762, 1889, 1904, 1909, 2387, 2408 and 2437 House Floor Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 24, House Floor Amendment No. 2 to HOUSE BILL 28 and House Committee Amendments Numbered 1 and 2 to HOUSE BILL 1083.

Judiciary - Criminal: HOUSE BILLS 1825, 1836, 2348, 2400 and 2401 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 34 and House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 77.

Labor & Commerce: HOUSE BILLS 1778 and 2441.

Mental Health & Addiction: HOUSE BILL 2356.

Personnel & Pensions: HOUSE BILLS 1820, 1871 and 2358.

Police & Fire: HOUSE BILLS 1916, 2336, 2350 and 2409.

Public Health: HOUSE BILLS 1754, 1863, 1910 and 2346 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1626.

Public Utilities: HOUSE BILLS 1802, 1828 and 1834.

Restorative Justice & Public Safety: HOUSE BILLS 1810, 1858, 2392 and 2397 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 44.

Revenue & Finance: HOUSE BILLS 1752, 1756, 1757, 1764, 1772, 1775, 1789, 1790, 1791, 1793, 1794, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1812, 1818, 1819, 1824, 1826, 1827, 1829, 1837, 1846, 1853, 1867, 1874, 1877, 1885, 1886, 1892, 1896, 1900, 1905, 1906, 1917, 1919, 2344, 2345, 2349, 2368, 2372, 2382, 2388, 2393, 2395, 2403, 2424 and 2434 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 13 and House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1390.

Small Business, Technology Innovation, and Entrepreneurship: HOUSE BILL 1915.

State Government Administration: HOUSE BILLS 1758, 1788, 1832, 1888, 1927, 1928, 2333, 2361, 2363, 2396, 2422 and 2433 House Committee Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 1065.

Transportation: Regulation, Roads & Bridges: HOUSE BILLS 1821, 1833 and 1924.

Transportation: Vehicles & Safety: HOUSE BILLS 1751, 1840, 1875, 1913, 1914, 2335, 2359, 2362, 2386, 2394, 2432 and 2442.

Veterans' Affairs: HOUSE BILL 1882.

The committee roll call vote on the foregoing Legislative Measure(s) is as follows:
5, Yeas; 0, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Gabel(D), Chairperson
Y Hoffman(D)(replacing Buckner)
Y Spain(R)

Y Hammond(R), Republican Spokesperson
Y Hernandez, Elizabeth(D)

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed on the Calendar on the order of Agreed Resolutions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 149

Offered by Representative Mayfield:

Congratulates the Waukegan Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on the occasion of its 45th anniversary. Thanks its members for their service and dedication to Lake County and the State.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 154

Offered by Representative Moore:

Mourns the passing of Thomas J. "Tom" Schutte.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 155

Offered by Representative Rosenthal:

Mourns the passing of Sergeant Gerald S. "Jerry" Schneider of the Illinois Secretary of State Police.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 156

Offered by Representative Sheehan:

Mourns the death of Gerald Schneider of Sherman.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 157

Offered by Representative Gordon-Booth:

Mourns the death of Maulana Ali Waller Sr. of Peoria.

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS 149, 154, 155 and 157 were taken up for consideration.

Representative Gabel moved the adoption of the agreed resolutions.

The motion prevailed and the agreed resolutions were adopted.

At the hour of 12:22 o'clock p.m., Representative Gabel moved that the House do now adjourn until Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 12:00 o'clock p.m., allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk.

The motion prevailed.

And the House stood adjourned.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE ROLL CALL
QUORUM CALL

February 25, 2025

0 YEAS

0 NAYS

114 PRESENT

P Ammons	P Ford	P Kelly	P Scherer
P Andrade	P Friess	P Kifowit	P Schmidt
P Avelar	P Fritts	P La Ha	P Schweizer
P Benton	P Gabel	P LaPointe	P Severin
P Blair-Sherlock	P Gill	P Lilly	P Sheehan
P Briel	P Gong-Gershowitz	P Mah	P Slaughter
P Buckner	P González, Edgar	P Manley	P Smith
P Bunting	P Gordon-Booth	P Mason	P Sosnowski
P Cabello	P Grant	P Mayfield	P Spain
P Canty	P Grasse	P McCombie	P Stava(ADDED)
P Cassidy	P Guerrero-Cuellar	P McLaughlin	P Stephens
P Chung	P Guzzardi(ADDED)	P Meier	P Stuart
P Coffey	P Haas	P Meyers-Martin	P Swanson
E Costa Howard	P Halbrook	P Miller	P Syed
P Crawford	P Hammond	P Moeller	P Tarver
P Crespo	P Hanson	P Moore	P Tipsword
P Croke	P Harper	P Morgan	P Ugaste
P Davidsmeyer	P Hauter	P Morris	P Vella
P Davis, Jed	P Hernandez, Barbara	P Moylan	P Walsh
P Davis, Lisa	P Hernandez, Lisa	P Mussman	P Weaver
P Davis, Will	P Hernandez, Norma	P Ness	P Weber
P Deering	P Hirschauer	P Niemerg	A West
P Delgado	P Hoffman	P Olickal	P Wilhour
P DeLuca	P Huynh	P Ortíz, Aarón	P Williams, Ann
P Deuter	P Jacobs	P Rashid	P Williams, Jawaharial
P Didech	E Jiménez	P Reick	P Windhorst
P Du Buclet	P Johnson	P Rita	P Yang Rohr
P Elik	E Jones	P Rosenthal	P Mr. Speaker
P Evans	P Katz Muhl	P Ryan	
P Faver Dias	P Keicher	P Sanalidro	

E - Denotes Excused Absence

11TH LEGISLATIVE DAY**Perfunctory Session****TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

At the hour of 1:22 o'clock p.m., the House convened perfunctory session.

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed in the Committee on Rules.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 151

Offered by Representative Avelar:

WHEREAS, The stability of the human services workforce is in crisis due to insufficient reimbursement rates, inadequate state contracts, a constrained de minimis rate cap that is not reflective of the actual cost of overhead expenses, and burdensome reporting requirements; and

WHEREAS, State funding for human services in Illinois, expressed as a percentage of the General Revenue Fund, is 25% less than it was 27 years ago, representing chronically underfunded state contracts amidst increasing demands for services, high caseloads, increasing costs of delivering services and inflation, resulting in a waning, overworked and underpaid workforce; and

WHEREAS, The provision of human services in Illinois and across the nation is under attack, and the livelihood of more than 350,000 workers in the sector and the millions of the people to whom they provide services hangs in the balance amidst a blatant devaluing of this work by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, The pipeline of people entering the human services sector has been decreasing, and people currently working at community-based organizations are leaving the workforce because of consistently low pay, lack of fully covered health benefits, and high student loan debt burden when many positions require bachelor's degrees and professional licenses; and

WHEREAS, Systemic racism and sexism in care-centric work are exacerbated by state contracts' inadequacy to pay the people who make up the bulk of this workforce, mainly Black, Latiné, and Women workers, living wages, so much so that based on IL Partners' research, 92% of single-income households with children, the majority of which are women, do not earn a living wage; and

WHEREAS, There are still significant barriers for organizations with Black and/or Latiné leadership and organizations with budgets under \$5M in accessing state funding and contracts, which exacerbates problems with community trust and service delivery when leadership of service providers lacks diversity; and

WHEREAS, The State values work differently based on where it is performed, as frontline human services workers at community-based organizations make significantly less than employees at state agencies doing similar work; and

WHEREAS, Human services are an essential part of a robust economy and thriving communities, ensuring that people are healthy, stable, and able to work; and

WHEREAS, Human service organizations do the State's work by preventing hospitalizations and providing life-saving support within the following services, including, but not limited to, childcare, food security, housing, mental health, substance use and prevention support, care for people with disabilities, care for older adults and youth, support for immigrants and returning citizens, job training and workforce development, violence prevention, legal aid, interpreters, and healthcare for historically marginalized populations; and

WHEREAS, The human service workforce is highly skilled and educated, as shown in Illinois Partners for Human Service's "Worker Well-Being is Community Well-Being" report that reveals that among the

more than 850 workers surveyed, more than 70% have at least a bachelor's degree and yet more than 64% self-reported not earning enough to make a living wage; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the State to increase reimbursement rates, state grants and contracts, and the minimum overhead allowance to meet the rising costs of providing essential human services in Illinois and to support the workers who deliver those services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That funding from State agencies should enable human service employers to provide their workers a thrivable wage with annual cost-of-living adjustments without having to increase caseloads, forgo filling vacancies, or provide fewer services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the House Minority Leader, the President of the Senate, the Senate Minority Leader, and to the heads of the Department of Human Services, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Early Childhood, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department on Aging, Department of Public Health, Department of Veteran Affairs, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, and the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 152

Offered by Representative Harper:

WHEREAS, Farming as a family-owned and independent business has been an important part of the social and economic development of Illinois and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Black farmers in America have had a long struggle to own land and operate independently; for more than a century after emancipation and the ratification of the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery, various economic and social barriers were discriminatorily applied towards Black farmers, and the few existing civil rights laws were rarely enforced; and

WHEREAS, Pembroke Township, founded by self-emancipated, escaped enslaved people, was once home to the largest community of Black farmers in the north; and

WHEREAS, In 1920, Illinois had 892 Black farmers, and African Americans owned 14 percent of the nation's farmland; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Statistics Service, as of April 2019, Illinois had 72,000 farms, covering 27 million acres, which is approximately 75% of the State's total land area; and

WHEREAS, As of the 2017 USDA Agricultural Census, there were 188 individually Black-owned farms, which are a combined 40,412 acres; out of the 116,417 agricultural producers in Illinois, 267 are Black; and

WHEREAS, As farming has become a big business, it has become one of the least diverse business sectors in our State, and the pressure to consolidate has reduced the ranks of family and independent farmers for the past century; and

WHEREAS, The scarcity of African American farmers stems from the troubled history of the U.S.; for sharecroppers, farming was associated with the poverty and the backbreaking labor of slavery; for those who owned land, unequal treatment made it difficult to retain property and earn a living, and racial discrimination played a major role in driving Black farmers off of their land; as recently as the mid-1990s, Black farmers who agreed to sell crops would routinely be offered lower prices at market than white farmers for equivalent products; and

WHEREAS, In a landmark legal settlement, the U.S. Department of Agriculture acknowledged that it had abused Black farmers for generations when agents approved only a fraction of financing requests, delayed loans until after the planting season, and withheld other key payments; and

WHEREAS, Movements in Illinois and across the country have fought to rectify historic discrimination against Black farmers and to develop interest in farming in young people and have worked to innovate in the farming space, including the development of Black-oriented urban agriculture, vertical farming, and microfarms in order to deliver fresher and healthier foods to communities and consumers in need of better food choices; and

WHEREAS, Black farmers can play a leading role in building local healthy food systems and creating regional networks of jobs, food, agricultural goods, and related opportunities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare May 11 through May 17, 2025 as Black Farmers and Growers Week in the State of Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage the people of Illinois and their representatives in government to learn about the history of Black farming communities and the contributions made by African Americans to agriculture in the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the Illinois Department of Agriculture and the National Black Farmers Association.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 153

Offered by Representative Harper:

WHEREAS, The National Institutes of Health reports that there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions that affect fewer than 200,000 Americans, which means that they are considered rare; and

WHEREAS, While each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect nearly 30 million Americans, 50% of whom are children; and

WHEREAS, Many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, While the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved drugs and biologics for more than 1,000 rare disease indications, millions of Americans have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems, such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and a lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; and

WHEREAS, While the public is familiar with some rare diseases, such as muscular dystrophy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease), and is sympathetic to those affected, many patients and families affected by lesser-known rare diseases bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments; and

WHEREAS, With nearly one in ten Americans diagnosed with a rare disease, thousands of Illinois residents are among those affected; these people were given a voice in 2017 with the establishment of the Rare Disease Advisory Commission in this State; and

WHEREAS, The Orphan Drug Act has encouraged and promoted the discovery and development of biopharmaceuticals designed to treat and potentially cure rare diseases; and

WHEREAS, Many of the world's leading academic institutions, academic medical centers, biotech companies, and pharmaceutical companies that are conducting research and seeking cures for rare diseases are doing so in this State; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare March 5, 2025 as Rare Disease Day in the State of Illinois in order to raise awareness of rare diseases, support individuals and families who struggle with rare diseases, bring attention to the need for research and funding to support the discovery and development of therapies designed to treat and potentially cure rare diseases, and support the continued work of the Illinois Rare Disease Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the Illinois Biotechnology Innovation Organization, Chairperson Maria Pollock of the Illinois Rare Disease Commission, and the Department of Public Health.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16

Offered by Representative Halbrook:

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is often regarded as having two distinct regions, the urban Cook County area and downstate Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Even communities north of Chicago are considered "downstate" because their needs, interests, economies, and cultures have more in common with rural southern and central Illinois counties than they do with urban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, The majority of residents in downstate Illinois disagree with urban Cook County on key policy issues; for example, 61 downstate Illinois counties, from the Wisconsin state line to the Kentucky state line, have approved resolutions to become sanctuary counties for gun owners, while the City of Chicago has some of the strictest gun laws in the country, and 100 of Illinois' 102 state's attorneys opposed the 2021 SAFE-T Act; and

WHEREAS, The divide between urban Cook County and the rest of Illinois is frequently manifested in electoral results, such as the 2010 gubernatorial election in which the winning candidate carried only four out of 102 counties and, in fact, did not need to carry any other counties to win because of the margin of victory in urban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Supreme Court ruling Reynolds v. Sims (1964) removed any geographic element from districting for the state senate, and as Illinois' U.S. Senator Everett Dirksen warned, this caused power to be concentrated in Chicago and resulted in rural areas losing their voice in State government; and

WHEREAS, Article IV Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution guarantees a republican form of government, meaning government of the people, by the people, and for the people, but the people of rural, small town and suburban downstate Illinois do not experience this and instead experience a grossly disproportionate lack of power; and

WHEREAS, This concentration of power in Illinois' largest urban area opened the door to extreme gerrymandering and further decreased the voice of downstate Illinoisans, and gerrymandering has enabled one county, with 40% of the state's population, to dominate the other 60%; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 3(a) of the Illinois Constitution requires districts to be compact, but both state and federal districts have shapes resembling snakes, dinosaurs, gloves, jaws, and a lightning bolt, earning these maps a grade of "F" from the Princeton Gerrymandering Project with The Economist called one Chicago area district one of the most strangely drawn and gerrymandered congressional districts in the country; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1 of the Illinois Constitution Bill of Rights declares that all men are by nature free and independent and have certain inherent and inalienable rights among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; to secure these rights and the protection of property, governments are instituted among men; and

WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence says that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly is dominated by one county, and the people of downstate Illinois have experienced legislation, taxation, and regulation without representation, and without representative government, there is no consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, The lack of representative government has decreased accountability, allowed corruption to flourish, and has led to Illinois being rated the third most corrupt state and Chicago the most corrupt city in the nation; and

WHEREAS, This lack of accountability has led to Illinois ranking among the worst of the states in financial health and debt, having the worst credit rating and ranking 50th in fiscal stability, while giving the people of Illinois one of the greatest collective state and local tax burdens of the 50 states; and

WHEREAS, Amendment XIV of the U.S. Constitution guarantees equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is frequently treated as a separate region of the state and has often been exempted from major legislative initiatives the General Assembly enacts into law because of this fact; and

WHEREAS, Laws are passed that are in the best interests of urban Cook County but not rural, small town, and suburban downstate Illinois; for example, the \$15 minimum wage signed into law in 2019, and the gas tax was doubled in 2019, making it one of the highest in the country, and disproportionately impacting downstate residents; and

WHEREAS, The divide between rural, small town, and suburban Illinois and the City of Chicago spans the 200-year history of the state, and there have been several attempts in the past to split Illinois into two states; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago passed a resolution in 1925 to form the State of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, west central Illinoisans declared their region the Republic of Forgottonia; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Democrat State Senator Howard Carroll of Chicago filed a Cook County state split bill, which passed in the state senate; and

WHEREAS, Organizations such as New Illinois, Illinois Separation, and The State of Southern Illinois continue pushing for the formation of a new state truly representing the rural, small town, and suburban residents of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, From 2020 to 2024, an advisory referendum for the creation of a new state appeared on the ballots in 33 counties and in each county won by a substantial margin, averaging a landslide of 74%; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 3 of the Constitution of the United States provides in part: New States may be admitted by Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other state; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress, and that five states in the Union have been formed by separating from other states, most recently West Virginia; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the United States Congress to take action to declare the 101 counties of downstate Illinois, along with outlying areas of Cook County wishing to be included, the 51st state of the United States of America and separate it from the rest of Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to all Illinois Constitutional Officers, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Illinois House of Representatives, and the President and Minority Leader of the Illinois Senate.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 17

Offered by Representative Johnson:

WHEREAS, Christopher Allan "Chris" James, age 48, of Savanna, died tragically in an accident on May 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Chris James was born to Derek "Rick" James and Patricia Colehour on March 1, 1975; he grew up in Mt. Carroll and graduated from Mt. Carroll High School in 1993; he married Jamie Schnitzler, and together they had two sons; he married Samantha Sipe on July 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Chris James worked for Guffey Motors (now JC Carey Motors) as a mechanic; he loved working on cars, a passion he kept throughout his life; he then worked for Elkay for approximately a decade, before starting a career with the Illinois Department of Corrections, first as a correctional officer, then vehicle maintenance, and then as a groundsman; and

WHEREAS, Chris James served as a councilman and treasurer for AFSCME; he also served on the Savanna City Council; and

WHEREAS, Chris James kept busy with all sorts of projects and endeavors centered around those he loved; he enjoyed vacationing in Hawaii with family and taking spur-of-the moment road trips; he was always available for people who needed him; his family was very important to him, and he kept many lifelong friendships; he was a big supporter of MC Motocross and the Rhythm Section Amphitheater; and

WHEREAS, Chris James was preceded in death by his grandparents, Dick and Diane James, and his father-in-law, Michael Sipe; and

WHEREAS, At the time of his passing, Chris James was survived by his wife, Sam; his sons, Hunter and Chase (Abbie) James; his stepchildren, Kharissa and Austin Anderson; his grandchildren, Emmett Dunk and Carter James; his parents, Jeff and Patty Janssen and Rick James; his sister, Beth (Dave) Jones; his nephews, Cody Johnson, David Jones III, and Charlie Jones; his honorary brother, Reid B. Law; his mother-in-law, Jodie Sipe; his "work wife", Denise Chandler; and many other beloved family members and friends; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 84 from 1030 Viaduct Road (south point) to U.S. 52 (intersection of Chicago Avenue and Viaduct Road) in Savanna as the "Chris James Memorial Highway"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs giving notice of the name "Chris James Memorial Highway"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the family of Chris James, the Mayor of Savanna, and the Secretary of the Department of Transportation.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF BILLS

The following bills were introduced, read by title a first time, ordered reproduced and placed in the Committee on Rules:

HOUSE BILL 3870. Introduced by Representative Slaughter, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3871. Introduced by Representative Weaver, AN ACT concerning revenue.

HOUSE BILL 3872. Introduced by Representative Benton, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3873. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3874. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3875. Introduced by Representative West, AN ACT concerning civil law.

HOUSE BILL 3876. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3877. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3878. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3879. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3880. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3881. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3882. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3883. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3884. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3885. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3886. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3887. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3888. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3889. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3890. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3891. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3947. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3948. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3949. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3950. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3951. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3952. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3953. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3954. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3955. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3956. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3957. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3958. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3959. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3960. Introduced by Representative Gabel, AN ACT concerning appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3961. Introduced by Representatives Guzzardi - Lilly, AN ACT concerning public employee benefits.

HOUSE BILL 3962. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning employment.

HOUSE BILL 3963. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning employment.

HOUSE BILL 3964. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning employment.

HOUSE BILL 3965. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning employment.

HOUSE BILL 3966. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning employment.

HOUSE BILL 3967. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT making appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3968. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT making appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3969. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT making appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3970. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT making appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3971. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT making appropriations.

HOUSE BILL 3972. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3973. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3974. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3975. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3976. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3977. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3978. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3979. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning State government.

HOUSE BILL 3980. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning gaming.

HOUSE BILL 3981. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning gaming.

HOUSE BILL 3982. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning gaming.

HOUSE BILL 3983. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning housing.

HOUSE BILL 3984. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning housing.

HOUSE BILL 3985. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning housing.

HOUSE BILL 3986. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning safety.

HOUSE BILL 3987. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning safety.

HOUSE BILL 3988. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning safety.

HOUSE BILL 3989. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning safety.

HOUSE BILL 3990. Introduced by Representative Evans, AN ACT concerning safety.

At the hour of 1:30 o'clock p.m., the House Perfunctory Session adjourned.