

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

2nd Legislative Day

1/12/2017

1 Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order. Members will be in your
2 new chairs, wherever that might be. Welcome to the 100th
3 General Assembly. We shall be led in prayer today by Lee
4 Crawford, the Pastor of the Cathedral of Praise Christian
5 Center in Springfield. Members and guests are asked to refrain
6 from starting their laptops, turn off cell phones, and rise
7 for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Crawford."

8 Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. Most gracious God in heaven, creator
9 of us all for it is from You, oh God, that all of our help
10 comes from. Oh God, it is from You from which all of our
11 blessings flow. Look upon this august Assembly that's
12 gathered here today, may Your hand be upon each of them to
13 direct them and all of their actions. Oh God, grant them
14 vigilant hearts, give them minds to know You, give them
15 diligence to seek You, and a wisdom to find You. I pray to
16 thee oh God, that You would bless them with... Your might,
17 advise them with your counsel that in all of their endeavors,
18 they would willingly do that which is the good and that which
19 is the most precious will of God in Your sight. We pray this
20 in Your Son's name, Amen."

21 Speaker Lang: "We shall be led in the Pledge by Representative
22 Mah."

23 Mah - et al: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States
24 of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation
25 under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

26 Speaker Lang: "Well done, Representative. Roll Call for
27 Attendance. Leader Currie."

28 Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record reflect the
29 excused absence of Representative Feigenholtz."

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1 Speaker Lang: "Mr. Wheeler."
2 Wheeler, K.: "Please let the record reflect that all Republicans
3 are here in attendance today."
4 Speaker Lang: "That makes us very happy. Mr. Clerk, please take
5 the record. We have 117 Members who have answered the roll,
6 we do have a quorum. The Chair recognizes Representative Mah
7 on a point of personal privilege."
8 Mah: "Mr. Speaker, I have a point of personal privilege."
9 Speaker Lang: "Proceed."
10 Mah: "I'd like to introduce my parents, Raymond and Ellen Mah, who
11 are in the gallery today. They've come to witness my swearing
12 in and my second day of Session."
13 Speaker Lang: "Welcome to the House chambers. Thank you for being
14 here with us. Mr. Sauer."
15 Sauer: "A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."
16 Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."
17 Sauer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to recognize my two
18 parents, Bruce and Janice Sauer, who are in the gallery. Love
19 you both."
20 Speaker: "Welcome. Thank you for joining us today. Chair recognizes
21 Mr. Costello. For what reason do you rise, Sir?"
22 Costello: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Point of personal privilege."
23 Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."
24 Costello: "I would like to introduce Patsie Hopkins, who's my
25 district office assistant and also, Linda Schramm, who takes
26 care of my financial office at home."
27 Speaker Lang: "Welcome. We're happy you're here with us. Mr.
28 Cavaletto is recognized."
29 Cavaletto: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

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1 Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead, Sir."

2 Cavaletto:" I'd like to introduce my L.A. from my office, Tabitha
3 Meador, in the balcony today. Welcome Tabitha, appreciate all
4 you do."

5 Speaker Lang: "Glad to have you aboard. Mr. Clerk, Adjournment
6 Resolution."

7 Clerk Hollman: "House Joint Resolution #6, offered by
8 Representative Currie.

9 Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the 100th General
10 Assembly of the state of Illinois, the Senate concurring
11 herein, that when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, January
12 12, 2017, the House of Representatives stands adjourned until
13 Tuesday, January 17, 2017, in perfunctory session; and when
14 it adjourns on that day, it stands adjourned until Friday,
15 January 20, 2017, in perfunctory session; and when it adjourns
16 on that day, it stands adjourned until Tuesday, January 24,
17 2017, at 12:00 o'clock noon, or until the call of the Speaker;
18 and the Senate stands adjourned until Wednesday, January 18,
19 2017, in perfunctory session; and when it adjourns on that
20 day, it stands adjourned until Monday, January 23, 2017, in
21 perfunctory session; and when it adjourns on that day, it
22 stands adjourned until Tuesday, January 24, 2017, or until
23 the call of the President."

24 Speaker Lang: "Members, before we go ahead with this Motion, we
25 are not adjourning. This is just a perfunctory Resolution to
26 keep us going down the road. Leader Currie moves for the
27 adoption of the Adjournment Resolution. Those in favor say
28 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Adjournment
29 Resolution is adopted. Chair recognizes Mr. Welter."

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1 Welter: "Mr. Speaker, I rise on the point of personal privilege."
2 Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."
3 Welter: "My family is here from Minnesota, Wisconsin. My mother,
4 my father, my siblings up there in the gallery if you could
5 please give them a Springfield round of applause."
6 Speaker Lang: "Welcome. Thank you for being here with us. He
7 couldn't find you seats? You have to stand? Mr. Reis."
8 Reis: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."
9 Speaker Lang: "Please."
10 Reis: "I would like to introduce to the Body, my 12-year
11 Legislative Assistant, Keith Simpson and his wife, up here
12 joining us for the festivities this week."
13 Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Thanks for joining us. Representative
14 Bryant."
15 Bryant: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Point of personal privilege."
16 Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."
17 Bryant: "Well, first I want to say, I noticed that this microphone
18 is a little bit crooked and then I heard that's because Mike
19 Bost tore it up. So, secondly, I have my mother and my husband
20 in the gallery and I'd appreciate a warm welcome for them.
21 She's from Atlanta, Georgia."
22 Speaker Lang: "Welcome. Glad you're here with us. Representative
23 McCombie."
24 McCombie: "...Speaker. A point of personal privilege."
25 Speaker Lang: "You may go right ahead."
26 McCombie: "I would like to introduce my L.A. who is new, Christine
27 Lee, from Savanna, Illinois."
28 Speaker Lang: "Hello. Thank you. Representative Skillicorn."
29 Skillicorn: "Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

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1 Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."

2 Skillicorn: "I'd like to introduce my district director, Julie
3 Schmidt, from the Fighting 66. Please give her a round of
4 welcome."

5 Speaker Lang: "Welcome to the House chamber. Mr. Ford is
6 recognized. You, Sir."

7 Ford: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

8 Speaker Lang: "Please."

9 Ford: "I would like to first thank my family and friends that came
10 down to help me to celebrate my sixth term. But I also want
11 to reintroduce my youth advisor, my young person advisor, my
12 daughter who was once two years old when I came and now she's
13 a twelve-year-old preteen. And my beautiful niece, J'nya
14 Catchings, who is a first grader and this is her first tour
15 in the House chamber. Please welcome them. Thank you."

16 Speaker Lang: "Oh, thanks for being here with us. Good to see you
17 today. Mr. Demmer."

18 Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

19 Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."

20 Demmer: "I'd like to welcome my Legislative Aide, Libby Huffner,
21 she's visiting from the district office. Welcome to the
22 Capitol."

23 Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Appreciate you being here in the House
24 chamber today. Mr. Harris."

25 Harris, D.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal
26 privilege."

27 Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

28 Harris, D.: "I'd actually like to put two points of personal
29 privilege into the record. The first point is that I know

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1 that my... that's all right nobody pays any attention that much
2 anyway, but I appreciate...I appreciate the concern."

3 Speaker Lang: "I'm paying attention to you, Sir. I am."

4 Harris, D.: "I just want to point out to my colleagues on the other
5 side of the aisle that even though you may have more Members
6 than we do, we have a Member on our side of the aisle who
7 comes from Alpha, Illinois. Now, that means that we have on
8 the 74th District a genuine alpha male on the Republican side
9 of the aisle, so our congratulations to him. If I may though,
10 very briefly, could put a couple of points into the record."

11 Speaker Lang: "Representative, who would that be? Who would that
12 be?"

13 Harris, D.: "Say again?"

14 Speaker Lang: "Who would that be?"

15 Harris, D.: "The Gentleman from the 74th District, Representative
16 Swanson."

17 Speaker Lang: "Much better. Thank you, proceed."

18 Harris, D.: "If I can just put a couple of points into the... comments
19 into the record as we start the 100th General Assembly. And
20 there's a great deal of excitement and friendship occurring
21 on the floor today and I think that's absolutely wonderful.
22 Yesterday, we were all sworn in as Members of the 100th
23 General Assembly. We are going to celebrate in this General
24 Assembly the 200th birthday, the Bicentennial of the State of
25 Illinois. Illinois has a proud history. It's the crossroads
26 of America, the fifth largest state, a world class City of
27 Chicago, great agriculture, outstanding universities. We've
28 given the world notable and distinguished political leaders:
29 Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas, Everett Dirksen, Bob

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1 Michael, Melvin Price, Adlai Stevenson, Ronald Reagan, Barack
2 Obama. Our state has been a state that works. We get the job
3 done whenever and wherever it is needed. And as I look around
4 the room today, I see the faces of so many new Members and
5 they are filled with hope, with excitement, with enthusiasm,
6 and they... with the confidence that they believe they can help
7 make this state a better place. Let us all embrace the
8 exuberance that we see around us today. Yesterday, the
9 distinguished Lady from the 84th District voiced frustration
10 with the current political situation in this Body. I dare say
11 that we all share her frustration and disappointment. We all
12 came here with the goal of serving our constituents as best
13 we could, and we are frustrated with what happened in the
14 99th General Assembly. We seem to face a seemingly implacable
15 impasse, a Gordian knot that no one has been able to cut
16 through. Now there are big issues that we have to deal with.
17 It is a solution that is not easy. If it were easy, we would
18 do it. But I encourage this Body... I encourage this Body as we
19 move into the 100th General Assembly, with a sense of hope
20 for the future. Let's keep in mind the words that our
21 respective Leaders said to us yesterday. The Speaker said,
22 let us find the best in each other. The Minority Leader,
23 following the admonition of his parents said, let us leave
24 this place better than when we found it. We can do better. We
25 can do better than we've done recently. We all want to do
26 better. So as we enjoy each other's company today starting
27 the 100th General Assembly, let's commit to getting the job
28 done and putting our great Land of Lincoln on a solidly
29 positive path for the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

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1 Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Harris. May I have your attention,
2 Members. We're prepared to adjourn. Upon adjournment,
3 Democrats will please stay in the chamber to complete some
4 operational matters. Republicans, do whatever Republicans do
5 after Session. Democrats will stay in the chamber after we
6 adjourn. And now leaving perfunctory time for the Clerk,
7 Leader Currie moves that the House stand adjourned until
8 Tuesday, January 24 at the hour of noon. Those in favor say
9 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the House stands
10 adjourned. Have a great week. We'll see you soon."

11 Clerk Bolin: "Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House
12 Bill 360, offered by Representative Skillicorn, a Bill for an
13 Act concerning revenue. House Bill 361, offered by
14 Representative Skillicorn, a Bill for an Act concerning
15 revenue. House Bill 362, offered by Representative
16 Skillicorn, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee
17 benefits. House Bill 363, offered by Representative
18 Skillicorn, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee
19 benefits. House Bill 364, offered by Representative McDermed,
20 a Bill for an Act concerning finance. House Bill 365, offered
21 by Representative McDermed, a Bill for an Act concerning
22 public safety. House Bill 366, offered by Representative
23 McDermed, a Bill for an Act concerning employment. House Bill
24 367, offered by Representative Ford, a Bill for an Act
25 concerning housing. House Bill 368, offered by Representative
26 Nekritz, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee
27 benefits. House Bill 369, offered by Representative Andrade,
28 a Bill for an Act concerning employment. House Bill 370,
29 offered by Representative Mayfield, a Bill for an Act

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1 concerning education. House Bill 371, offered by
2 Representative Mayfield, a Bill for an Act concerning
3 transportation. House Bill 372, offered by Representative
4 Mayfield, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. House
5 Bill 373, offered by Representative Willis, a Bill for an Act
6 concerning local government. House Bill 374, offered by
7 Representative Mayfield, a Bill for an Act concerning
8 transportation. House Bill 375, offered by Representative
9 Fine, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House Bill
10 376, offered by Representative Reick, a Bill for an Act
11 concerning revenue. House Bill 377, offered by Representative
12 Reick, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. House Bill 378,
13 offered by Representative Reick, a Bill for an Act concerning
14 government. House Bill 379, offered by Representative Reick,
15 a Bill for an Act concerning education. House Bill 380,
16 offered by Representative Reick, a Bill for an Act concerning
17 revenue. House Bill 381, offered by Representative Yingling,
18 a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 382, offered
19 by Representative Yingling, a Bill for an Act concerning
20 revenue. House Bill 383, offered by Representative Harris,
21 David, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 384,
22 offered by Representative Harris, David, a Bill for an Act
23 concerning government. House Bill 385, offered by
24 Representative Harris, David, a Bill for an Act concerning
25 gaming. House Bill 386, offered by Representative Beiser, a
26 Bill for an Act concerning transportation. House Bill 387,
27 offered by Representative Sente, a Bill for an Act concerning
28 business. House Bill 388, offered by Representative Welch, a
29 Bill for an Act concerning elections. House Bill 389, offered

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1 by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning civil
2 law. House Bill 390, offered by Representative Bennett, a
3 Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 391, offered
4 by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning
5 criminal law. House Bill 392, offered by Representative
6 Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House
7 Bill 393, offered by Representative Meier, a Bill for an Act
8 concerning local government. House Bill 394, offered by
9 Representative D'Amico, a Bill for an Act concerning State
10 government. House Bill 395, offered by Representative
11 D'Amico, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House
12 Bill 396, offered by Representative Meier, a Bill for an Act
13 concerning regulation. House Bill 397, offered by
14 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning elections.
15 House Bill 398, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
16 Act concerning State government. House Bill 399, offered by
17 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue.
18 House Bill 400, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
19 Act concerning revenue. House Bill 401, offered by
20 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation.
21 House Bill 402, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
22 Act concerning public aid. House Bill 403, offered by
23 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid.
24 House Bill 404, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
25 Act concerning public aid. House Bill 405, offered by
26 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning safety.
27 House Bill 406, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
28 Act concerning wildlife. House Bill 407, offered by
29 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning

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1 transportation. House Bill 408, offered by Representative
2 Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House Bill
3 409, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act
4 concerning correctional officers. House Bill 410, offered by
5 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal
6 law. House Bill 411, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill
7 for an Act concerning employment. House Bill 412, offered by
8 Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning employment.
9 House Bill 413, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an
10 Act concerning the 2nd Amendment rights. House Bill 414,
11 offered by Representative Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning
12 revenue. House Bill 415, offered by Representative Wehrli, a
13 Bill for an Act concerning elections. House Bill 416, offered
14 by Representative Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning public
15 employee benefits. House Bill 417, offered by Representative
16 Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 418,
17 offered by Representative Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning
18 public employee benefits. House Bill 419, offered by
19 Representative Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue.
20 House Bill 420, offered by Representative Wehrli, a Bill for
21 an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 421, offered by
22 Representative Wehrli, a Bill for an Act concerning public
23 employee benefits. House Bill 422, offered by Representative
24 Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. House Bill
25 423, offered by Representative Andersson, a Bill for an Act
26 concerning State government. House Bill 424, offered by
27 Representative Andersson, a Bill for an Act concerning
28 government. First Reading of these House Bills. First Reading

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1 in full of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment
2 #10, offered by Representative Bennett.

3 Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the 100th General
4 Assembly of the State of Illinois, the Senate concurring
5 herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the
6 State for adoption or rejection at the general election next
7 occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of this
8 resolution, a proposition to amend the Illinois Constitution
9 by changing Sections 5 and 6 of Article IV, and Sections 2
10 and 3 of Article VIII as follows:

11 ARTICLE IV

12 THE LEGISLATURE

13 SECTION 5. SESSIONS

14 (a) The General Assembly shall convene each year on the second
15 Wednesday of January. The General Assembly shall be a
16 continuous body during the term for which members of the House
17 of Representatives are elected.

18 (b) The Governor may convene the General Assembly or the Senate
19 alone in special session by a proclamation stating the purpose
20 of the session; and only business encompassed by such purpose,
21 together with any impeachments or confirmation of
22 appointments shall be transacted. Special sessions of the
23 General Assembly may also be convened by joint proclamation
24 of the presiding officers of both houses, issued as provided
25 by law or as provided in subsection (b-5) of Section 6 of
26 this Article.

27 (c) Sessions of each house of the General Assembly and meetings
28 of committees, joint committees and legislative commissions
29 shall be open to the public. Sessions and committee meetings

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1 of a house may be closed to the public if two-thirds of the
2 members elected to that house determine that the public
3 interest so requires; and meetings of joint committees and
4 legislative commissions may be so closed if two-thirds of the
5 members elected to each House so determine.

6 SECTION 6. ORGANIZATION

7 (a) A majority of the members elected to each house constitutes
8 a quorum.

9 (b) On the first day of the January session of the General
10 Assembly in odd-numbered years, the Secretary of State shall
11 convene the House of Representatives to elect from its
12 membership a Speaker of the House of Representatives as
13 presiding officer, and the Governor shall convene the Senate
14 to elect from its membership a President of the Senate as
15 presiding officer.

16 (b-5) Within 5 days after the vacancy of the offices of Speaker
17 of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate
18 under subsection (a-5) of Section 2 of Article VIII, the
19 Secretary of State shall convene the House of Representatives
20 to elect from its membership a Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives as presiding officer, and the Governor shall
22 convene the Senate to elect from its membership a President
23 of the Senate as presiding officer. Only members who have not
24 previously served as the Speaker of the House of
25 Representatives or the President of the Senate shall be
26 eligible for election.

27 (c) For purposes of powers of appointment conferred by this
28 Constitution, the Minority Leader of either house is a member
29 of the numerically strongest political party other than the

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1 party to which the Speaker or the President belongs, as the
2 case may be.

3 (d) Each house shall determine the rules of its proceedings,
4 judge the elections, returns and qualifications of its
5 members and choose its officers. No member shall be expelled
6 by either house, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members
7 elected to that house. A member may be expelled only once for
8 the same offense. Each house may punish by imprisonment any
9 person, not a member, guilty of disrespect to the house by
10 disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence.
11 Imprisonment shall not extend beyond twenty-four hours at one
12 time unless the person persists in disorderly or contemptuous
13 behavior.

14 ARTICLE VIII

15 FINANCE

16 SECTION 2. STATE FINANCE

17 (a) The Governor shall prepare and submit to the General
18 Assembly, at a time prescribed by law, a State budget for the
19 ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall set forth the estimated
20 balance of funds available for appropriation at the beginning
21 of the fiscal year, the estimated receipts, and a plan for
22 expenditures and obligations during the fiscal year of every
23 department, authority, public corporation and quasi-public
24 corporation of the State, every State college and university,
25 and every other public agency created by the State, but not
26 of units of local government or school districts. The budget
27 shall also set forth the indebtedness and contingent
28 liabilities of the State and such other information as may be
29 required by law. Proposed expenditures shall not exceed funds

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1 estimated to be available for the fiscal year as shown in the
2 budget.

3 (a-5) If a balanced budget has not been passed by June 30th of
4 each year, the offices of Speaker of the House of
5 Representatives and President of the Senate become vacant, as
6 provided in subsection (c) of Section 3 of this Article, and
7 shall continue to become vacant every 90 days after the
8 vacancies are filled until the General Assembly passes a
9 balanced budget. Elections to fill the vacancies shall be
10 held as provided in subsection (b-5) of Section 6 of Article
11 IV.

12 (b) The General Assembly by law shall make appropriations for
13 all expenditures of public funds by the State. Appropriations
14 for a fiscal year shall not exceed funds estimated by the
15 General Assembly to be available during that year.

16 SECTION 3. STATE AUDIT AND AUDITOR GENERAL

17 (a) The General Assembly shall provide by law for the audit of
18 the obligation, receipt and use of public funds of the State.
19 The General Assembly, by a vote of three-fifths of the members
20 elected to each house, shall appoint an Auditor General and
21 may remove him for cause by a similar vote. The Auditor
22 General shall serve for a term of ten years. His compensation
23 shall be established by law and shall not be diminished, but
24 may be increased, to take effect during his term.

25 (b) The Auditor General shall conduct the audit of public funds
26 of the State. He shall make additional reports and
27 investigations as directed by the General Assembly. He shall
28 report his findings and recommendations to the General
29 Assembly and to the Governor.

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1 (c) Within 30 days of the enactment of the law or laws
2 comprising the State budget for a fiscal year, the Office of
3 the Auditor General must certify whether the enacted budget
4 will be balanced with expenses not exceeding funds estimated
5 by the General Assembly to be available during that year
6 pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 2 of this Article. If
7 the Office of the Auditor General certifies that the budget
8 is not balanced, then the offices of Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives and President of the Senate shall become
10 vacant upon filing notice of such certification with the
11 Secretary of State.

12 SCHEDULE

13 This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being
14 declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois
15 Constitutional Amendment Act. This has been the First Reading
16 in full of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment
17 #10. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory
18 Session will stand adjourned."