

STATE OF ILLINOIS
103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

16th Legislative Day

3/2/2023

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 110 is referred to the Rules Committee. Committee Reports. Representative Gabel, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: recommends be adopted, referred to the Order of Resolutions is House Resolution 110."

Speaker Evans: "The House shall be in order. The House shall be in order. Members in their chairs. We shall be led in the prayer today by Wayne Padget, the Assistant Doorkeeper. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones, and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance."

Assistant Doorkeeper Padget: "Let us pray. God of power and might, wisdom and justice, through your authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment is decreed. Assist with your spirit of counsel and fortitude to the Speaker of this House and all the elected officials. May they always seek the ways of righteousness, justice, and mercy. Grant that they may be able, by your powerful protection, to lead our state with honesty and integrity. These things we pray, Amen."

Speaker Evans: "We'll be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by Representative West."

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

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Speaker Evans: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Gabel is recognized for reporting excused absences on the Democratic side of the aisle."

Gabel: "Speaker, let the record show that Representatives Jones and Scherer are excused today."

Speaker Evans: "Leader Keicher is recognized for reporting excused absences on the Republican side of the aisle."

Keicher: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect that Representatives Miller and Spain are excused for the day."

Speaker Evans: "Have all those recorded themselves who wish? Have all recorded themselves who wish? All recorded themselves who wish? Clerk, please take the record. There being 109 Members answering the roll call, a quorum is present. Mr. Clerk, Committee Reports."

Clerk Hollman: "Committee Reports. Representative Delgado, Chairperson from the Committee on Immigration & Human Rights reports the following committee action taken on March 1, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 2248, House Bill 2829; and do pass as amended Short Debate is House Bill 1596. Representative Scherer, Chairperson from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education: Administration, Licensing & Charter Schools reports the following committee action taken on March 1, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1123, House Bill 1589, House Bill 2155, House Bill 2156, House Bill 2160, House Bill 2233, House Bill 2392, House Bill 2471. Representative Evans, Chairperson from the Committee Labor & Commerce reports the following committee action taken on March 1, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1258, House Bill 2068, House Bill 2247, House Bill 2300, House Bill 2516,

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House Bill 2826, House Bill 2845, House Bill 2907. Representative Walker, Chairperson from the Committee on State Government Administration reports the following committee action taken on March 1, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1346, House Bill 1625, House Bill 2088, House Bill 2158, House Bill 2303, House Bill 2515, House Bill 2572, House Bill 2856, and House Bill 3155. Representative Stuart, Chairperson of Committee on Higher Education reports the following committee action taken on March 1, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1086, House Bill 2041, and House Bill 2503. The Chairperson from the Committee on Police & Fire reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 2448. Representative Stava-Murray, Chairperson of Committee on Public Health reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1557, House Bill 2238, House Bill 2496, House Bill 2526, House Bill 2820, House Bill 2827. Representative Mason, Chairperson of the Committee on Childcare Accessibility & Early Childhood Education reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 2168, House Bill 2277, and House Bill 2396. Representative Tarver, Chairperson from the Committee on Counties & Townships reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 1236, House Bill 1465, House Bill 2033, and House Bill 3053. Representative Kifowit, Chairperson of the Committee on Personnel & Pensions reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 3211; and recommends be adopted is Floor

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Amendment(s) 2 to House Bill 2035 and Floor Amendment(s) 2 to House Bill 2057. Representative Cassidy, Chairperson from the Committee on Restorative Justice reports the following committee action taken on March 2, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 46 and House Bill 1084. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 109, offered by Representative Harper, is referred to the Rules Committee."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Ortiz is recognized."

Ortiz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise before you today with a heavy heart, as we mourn the loss of a brave police officer in our community. On behalf of the people of the 1st District, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Andrés Vásquez Lasso, who tragically lost his life yesterday in Gage Park. As a community, we must come together to support each other during this difficult time. We must also come together to support the men and women in law enforcement who put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe. Their sacrifice and dedication to serving and protecting our communities should never be taken for granted. While we continue to gather details surrounding this tragedy, we must remain committed to finding ways to prevent senseless acts of violence from occurring in our neighborhoods. It's not enough to simply mourn after tragedy strikes, we must work together to find solutions that promote peace and safety for all. I want to take a moment to thank the first responders who were on the scene of this tragic incident. Their courage and swift action undoubtedly saved lives and prevented further harm from being inflicted. We are grateful for their service and commitment

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to keeping our community safe. In closing... in closing, I would like to remind everyone that our community is resilient and strong. We will come together and support each other during this time of grief. We also will continue to work towards a safer and more peaceful community for all. A few of our colleagues will also be saying a few words. I ask for a moment of silence after they speak. Thank you."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Tipsword is recognized."

Tipsword: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Chicago police officer, Andrés Vásquez Lasso, 32, a 5-year veteran, was shot and killed in the Gage Park neighborhood late yesterday afternoon while investigating a call about a domestic incident. Two separate squad cars responded to this call about a man with a gun who was chasing a woman in the 5200 block of South Spalding Avenue. Officer Lasso began pursuing the suspect, an 18-year-old man police knew who had a gun. The suspect shot Officer Lasso who, after being struck, he still was able to return fire. Officer Lasso was shot in the face and leg. He later succumbed to his injuries at Mount Sinai Hospital. Officer Lasso was doing what all police officers do every day, he was running toward danger to help an innocent victim. For that, he paid the ultimate sacrifice. Officer Lasso leaves behind a grieving young widow. Rest easy, brother. We'll take it from here. And I, too, ask for a moment of silence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Kelly is recognized."

Kelly: "Thank you, Speaker. Yet again, we mourn the sudden, tragic loss of a police officer in the line of duty. Those who willingly risk their lives each and every day to promote and

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enhance safety of our neighborhoods, families, and businesses know what happened yesterday afternoon is a possibility every time they put on their uniform. It is because, despite this, they continue to patrol our communities and stand ready to stand between each of us and sudden danger that we honor them. Andrés Vásquez Lasso represents the very best that the best that the City of Chicago has to offer. His dedication, selflessness, courage, and sense of duty should inspire each of us to reach for a higher standard. Chicago is a diverse city, but admiration and respect for the example of those who put the public good ahead of their own are among the many things that unite us. Officer Vásquez Lasso's sacrifice is a monument to the city for which he gave his life. And I know I am not alone in that, and I will be forever grateful for him and the many others like him. To the family and loved ones of this outstanding young hero unjustly taken far too soon, I am personally very sorry for your loss. As a firefighter myself, Officer Vásquez Lasso is a member of a siblinghood to which I also belong. I feel this loss acutely. In the wake of this tragedy, we must each recommit ourselves to a great task of continuing to promote and enhance public safety and to ensuring a safe and equitable society to every person in this great state. At times like this, it can be easy to find ourselves divided, but we should challenge ourselves to have the strength to remain united and continue addressing the issues facing the state together. The memory of Officer Andrés Vásquez Lasso is worthy of nothing less. And I would like to do a policeman's poem, a prayer, that in my 20 years as a Chicago firefighter, I've heard entirely too

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much. 'The policeman stood and faced his God, which must always come to pass. He hoped his shoes were shining just as brightly as his brass. 'Step forward now, policeman, how shall I deal with you? Have you always turned the other cheek? To my church, have you been true?' The policeman squared his shoulders and said, 'No, Lord, I guess I ain't, because those of us who carry badges can't always be a saint. I've had to work most Sundays, and at times my talk was rough. But that is only because the streets are awfully tough. I never took a penny that wasn't mine to keep, though I worked a lot of overtime when the bills just got too steep. I never passed a cry for help, though at times I shook with fear. And sometimes, God, forgive me, I've wept unmanly tears. I know I don't deserve a place among the people here. They never wanted me around except to calm their fear. If you've a place for me here, Lord, it needn't be so grand. I never expected or had too much, but if you don't, I'll understand.' There was silence all around the throne where the saints had often trod, as the policeman waited quietly for the judgment of his God. 'Step forward now, policeman, you've borne your burdens well. Come walk a beat on heaven's streets, you've done your time in hell.' Rest in peace."

Speaker Evans: "Thank you, Representative. Moment of silence for one of our best and one of our bravest. Thank you. Leader Hoffman is recognized."

Hoffman: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could have the Body's attention. Mr. Speaker, I stand today on House Resolution 23. House Resolution 23, which we will formally take up next week, indicates the marking of the 145th anniversary of the

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liberation of Bulgaria. This Resolution proclaims March 2023 as Bulgarian American Heritage Month in Illinois. I am proud that we are joined today and honored to welcome to the Capitol Consul General of the Republic of Bulgaria in Chicago, Consul General Stankov. Welcome him to the Capitol, as well as his group. Please welcome them. Bulgaria and the United States are strategic partners and allies, sharing strong ties of culture, tradition, and common interest. Our relationship dates back 120 years, and Illinois in particular has a significant population of residents who possess Bulgarian heritage. By some accounts, the metropolitan Chicago area is considered to be the home of the largest Bulgarian diaspora. And this population traces its roots back to our area in the Metro East. Granite City hosts the oldest Bulgarian American community in the country. And if you visit our area today, you can see the Holy Trinity Church in Madison, Illinois, which is the oldest Bulgarian Orthodox church in the state and has been a pillar of the community for over a century. I think it's also important to touch on the strength and enduring national spirit the people of Bulgaria possess. Bulgaria has faced significant challenge and dark times throughout its history. Whether it was standing up for Bulgarian Jews and resisting Nazi pressure during World War II or persevering through the darkest days of the Iron Curtain, the people of Bulgaria have fought injustice and determine... with determined resolution. Today, they are our partners in NATO and have been active in cooperation with the United States on numerous defense efforts. There's no question that Bulgarian Americans have greatly enriched our

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culture, technological, and civic life here in Illinois. From innovation in computers to conservation... contributions to aviation, Bulgarian Americans have left an enduring impact on all of our lives in Illinois and the United States. Again, please welcome... please welcome, and I am honored to welcome, the Consul General of the Republic of Bulgaria in Chicago, Consul General Stankov and his group, to the Capitol today. Here's to our rich and continued friendship. Please welcome them."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Hauter, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Hauter: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Evans: "Please speak your point."

Hauter: "Well, I would just like to also recognize the Bulgarian delegation that's here and join the Leader in welcoming them to our country. This is special for me because, 13 years ago, my wife and I adopted our fifth child from Bulgaria. And I was able to travel there multiple times and see this wonderful and beautiful country. Thank you, again, for being here. Thank you."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Windhorst, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Windhorst: "Point of personal privilege, please."

Speaker Evans: "Please speak your point."

Windhorst: "If everyone would join me in welcoming the Southeastern Illinois College Model Illinois Government Team, which is back behind me in the gallery. They are led by Professor Matt Lees. They are in competition this weekend, and please welcome them to our Capitol."

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Speaker Evans: "On Supplemental Calendar #1, under the Order of Resolutions, we have House Resolution 110, offered by Leader Gabel. Leader Gabel is recognized."

Gabel: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the House, today I present the Resolution nominating Nicole Hill to the position of Head Doorkeeper of the House. As many of you know, Lee Crawford retired from this position at the conclusion of the 2022 Legislative Session, and we have since conducted a thorough search to find someone as qualified and professional, as kind as Lee was. Ms. Nicole Hill is that person. Our search committee received more than 80 applicants and conducted 4 rounds of interviews. Out of many qualified candidates, Ms. Hill stands out. For more than 12 years, she led security efforts at Springfield Public Schools. As many of my colleagues had said, 'If she can deal with all those parents at Springfield Public Schools, she can certainly help us.' She is a certified nursing assistant and holds an associate degree in criminal justice. Ms. Hill's also certified in CPR and has spent years working as a CNA in local hospitals in Springfield. Members who have interviewed her left feeling that protecting and caring for people is not simply a job to Ms. Hill, but it is her calling. I know she will work well with all Members of this House and our team of Doorkeepers. She will keep us safe, and she will make us proud. I ask for your 'aye' vote."

Speaker Evans: "Leader McCombie is recognized."

McCombie: "Thank you, Speaker. Just would like to make a comment, obviously to welcome Nicole Hill, but... where is Wayne? Is he here on the floor somewhere? Wayne has been our Doorkeeper

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since Lee's retirement in May of 2022 and has been extremely helpful and instrumental to our success every day here on the floor. As I am happy for Nicole, I have to say that I'm also disappointed for Wayne not receiving that position, but understand it is a partisan situation. However, I just want to remind everybody that Wayne has never treated any of us like Democrats or Republicans, and I just want us to give him a roaring round of applause and thank you for taking care of us all of these years."

Speaker Evans: "Seeing no further discussion, Leader Gabel moves for the adoption of House Resolution 110. This is a recorded vote. All those in favor vote 'aye'; all those opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 103 voting 'aye', 0 voting 'nay', 2 voting 'present'. And this Resolution, having received a Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared adopted. Representative Norma Hernandez, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Hernandez, N. "Hi there. I meant to vote 'yes' on the Resolution."

Speaker Evans: "The record will reflect your request. Representative Eliik, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Elik: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Evans: "Please speak your point."

Elik: "Today, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise to pay tribute to an Illinois artist and her quest to discover women artists in Illinois, Channy Lyons. In 2005, Channy Lyons organized an exhibit of women artists who worked in Peoria

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before 1970. She managed to identify 50 artists, but it was no easy task. Researching women artists was a tedious process made more challenging because most women artists prior to 1940 remained largely anonymous. Tracking them down was thwarted by name changes after marriage, unsigned works, or use of pseudonyms. A native New Yorker, Lyons was born in 1943 and moved to Chicago with her family in the early 1950s. She studied political science at the University of Wisconsin and earned an MBA from the University of Illinois. She worked as a computer programmer at a major Chicago advertising firm before pursuing her Master of Art in English at Bradley University. She ultimately made her home in Peoria, where she researched and wrote about Peoria women who influenced the local quality of life. Lyons set out to make it easier for future generations. Her goal was to uncover the identity of as many Illinois women artists and their works as possible and to make the information readily available to everyone. Lyons founded the Illinois Women Artists Project and, in 2008, led a statewide effort to build a database of women artists from Illinois. The Illinois Women Artists Project continues to thrive as an online resource managed by Bradley University and is dedicated to recognizing the work and experiences of Illinois women artists. Lyons' preliminary focus was on early women artists and their works. She explained, 'It is impossible to know exactly how many women living in Illinois between 1840-1940 dreamed of becoming artists. Many of them must have had the skill and desire to make art, but gaining access to the training and being accepted as a professional artist was much more difficult for women than for men.' In

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2011, Lyons was guest curator of the exhibition Skirting Convention: Illinois Women Artists 1840-1940 and later curated the exhibition Making Their Mark: Illinois Women Artists 1940-1960. Chandler 'Channy' Lyons Wildemuth of Peoria passed away on February 1, 2017. Her love of art, history, and experience as a computer programmer gave her the skill set needed to complete her quest. We appreciate and recognize her commitment to promoting the work of women artists from throughout Illinois."

Speaker Evans: "Representative Ammons is recognized."

Ammons: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Point of personal privilege, please."

Speaker Evans: "Please speak your point."

Ammons: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In honor of Women's History Month, we recognize the great and late Maya Angelou. 'You may write me down in history with your bitter, twisted lies. You may try me and trod me in the very dirt, but still, like dust, I'll rise. Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? 'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells pumping in my living room. Just like moons and like suns, with certainty of tides, just like hopes springing high, still I rise.' Maya Angelou, poet, dancer, singer, activist, scholar, was a world-famous author. She was best known for her unique and pioneering autographical writing style. On April 4, 1928, Marguerite Ann Johnson, known to the world as Maya Angelou, was born in St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to the start of World War II, she attended George Washington High School in Oakland, California, studied dance and drama at the Oakland Labor School. During her youth, Angelou was employed for a semester

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as the first African American woman to be a train conductor, but then decided to return to school. She graduated from Missouri... Mission High School in the summer of 1944 and soon gave birth to her only child, Clyde Bailey Guy Johnson. In 1949, she married Tosh Angelos, an electrician in the U.S. Navy. She adopted a form of his surname and kept it throughout her life. Angelou was also noted for her talents as a singer and dancer, particularly in calypso and cabaret styles. In 1950, African American writers in New York formed the Harlem Writers Guild to nurture and support the publication of black authors. Angelou joined the Guild in 1959. She also became a civil rights movement... she also became an active member of the civil rights movement and served as the northern coordinator of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a preeminent African American advocacy organization. In 1969, Angelou published *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, an autobiographical of her own life. Her tale of personal strength amid childhood trauma and racism resonated with readers and was nominated for the National Book Award. Many schools sought to ban the book for its frank description and depiction of sexual abuse, but it is credited with helping other abuse survivors tell their stories. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* has been translated into numerous languages and has sold over a million copies worldwide. Angelou eventually published six more autobiographies, culminated in 2013's *Mom & Me & Mom*. She wrote numerous poetry volumes, such as the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Just Give Me a Drink of Water 'fore I Diiie* in 1971, as well as several essay collections. She also recorded spoken word albums of her poetry, including *On*

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the Pulse of the Morning for which she won a Grammy for Best Spoken Word Album. The poem was originally written for and delivered by Bill Clinton inauguration in 1993. She also won a Grammy in 1995 and again in 2002 for her spoken word poetry. Angelou carried out a wide variety of activities on stage and screen as a writer, actor, director, and producer. And in 1972, she became the first African American woman to have her screenplay turned into a film with the production of *Georgia, Georgia*. Angelou earned a Tony nomination in 1973 for her supporting role in Jerome Kilty's play *Look Away* and portrayed Kunta Kinte's grandmother in the television miniseries *Roots* in 1977. In 1981, Wake Forest University offered Angelou the Reynolds Professorship of American Studies. President Clinton awarded Angelou the National Medal of Arts in 2000. And in 2012, she was a member of the inaugural class inducted into the Wake Forest University Writers Hall of Fame. The following year, she received the National Book Foundation's Literarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community. Angelou also gave many commencement speeches, and awards of more than 30 honorary degrees have been given to her in her time. In 2011, President Barack Obama awarded Angelou the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country's highest civilian honor. It was a fitting recognition for Angelou's remarkable and inspiring career in the arts. Unfortunately, she passed away May 28, 2014. To honor her legacy, the U.S. Postal Service also adopted a stamp of her likeness on its 2015 stamp. And thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Evans: "Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

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Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 107, offered by Representative Lilly. And House Resolution 108, offered by Representative Evans."

Speaker Evans: "Leader Gabel moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. And now, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Gabel moves that the House stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 7, at the hour of noon. All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 4006, offered by Representative Olickal, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 4007, offered by Representative Gordon-Booth, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 4008, offered by Representative Walsh (sic-Mayfield), a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. First Reading of these House Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."