Speaker Lyons, J.: “Ladies and Gentlemen, the hour of 11:00 having come, the House will come to order. Members should be at their desks. Members and guests are asked please to silence your laptops, your cell phones, your computers. We shall be led in prayer today by Pastor Andrew J. King with Dream Center of Peoria Church in Peoria. Pastor King is the guest of Representative Schock.”

Pastor King: “God, we just thank You for this beautiful day that is outside right now. Not only for the beautiful day, but also for this great nation of ours, the thing that it represents. God, I pray, right now today, that all the decisions that are made in this House will be honoring to You. God, I pray for vision within this House that there will be a vision, that the things that go on within this House will affect homes across this great state. God, I pray that You will just bless everything that is done today. God, I wanna pray for someone that I met last night, because being in America there are so many different things that you come… come across. God, I pray for Mary who I met last night, who is a 16-year-old, who is homeless, pregnant, 7 months along. God, I pray for her. God, it’s a great honor to be here today. But the extremes are amazing, to go from talking with a… a young lady who is homeless, to be here with some of the most powerful men and women in Illinois. God, I pray that our perspective is right, that we do what is right and what is just for people like Mary and the millions that also live in Illinois. Give us vision today that no one will parish. Amen.”
Speaker Lyons, J.: “We’ll be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by the new Member of the House Republican Leadership, Representative Renee Kosel.”

Kosel - 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.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Currie.”

Currie: “Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representative Patterson is excused today.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Thank you, Representative. Representative Bost.”

Bost: “Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Bassi and Representative Daniels are excused today.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Thank you, Representative. Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 114 Members present, we have a quorum. Mr. Clerk, Committee Reports.”

Clerk Mahoney: “Committee Reports. Representative Molaro, Chairperson from the Committee on Judiciary II-Criminal Law, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on January 19, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 4134. Representative Franks, Chairperson from the Committee on State Government Administration, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on January 19, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House
Bill 4137. Representative Bradley, Richard, Chairperson from the Committee on Personnel & Pensions, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on January 19, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 4317. Representative Osterman, Chairperson from the Committee on Local Government, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on January 19, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 4217 and House Bill 4359. Representative Delgado, Chairperson from the Committee on Human Services, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on January 19, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass as amended' House Bill 4306."

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Mr. Clerk, read the Adjournment Resolution.” Clerk Mahoney: “House Joint Resolution 86.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREBIN, that when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, January 19, 2006, the House of Representatives stands adjourned until Monday, January 23, 2006, in Perfunctory Session; and when it adjourns on that day, it stands adjourned until Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 12:00 noon; and the Senate stands adjourned until Friday, January 20, 2006, in Perfunctory Session; and when it adjourns on that day, it stands adjourned until Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 12:00 noon.”
Speaker Lyons, J.: “Chair moves the adoption of the Resolu... the Adjournment Resolution. All those in favor signify by saying ‘aye’; those opposed... The ‘ayes’ have it. The Adjournment Resolution is adopted. The Chair recognizes the Lady from Grundy, Representative Careen Gordon. Representative, for what purpose do you rise?”
Gordon: “Thank you, Mr. Speaker, point of personal privilege.”
Speaker Lyons, J.: “Please, proceed, Representative.”
Gordon: “Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, we have a very special guest on our House Floor today. This is Dugan Allen Hubert, he is the grandson of Representative Lisa Dugan. His mother, Danielle is here as well as his... shh... as well as his father, Marcus. But I will tell you, he just went to sleep, so if we could all just be very quiet, I know Danielle would be happy about that. So, just for introduction purposes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.”
Speaker Lyons, J.: “Thank you, Representative. Dugan, welcome to the House Floor, don’t be a stranger. Welcome to Springfield. Ladies and Gentlemen, we’d ask the staff to please go to the back of the chamber, we have a Death Resolution. Mr. Clerk, House Resolution 790, page 3 of the Calendar. Members, please be at your desks. House Resolution 790. Members are asked to please be at their desks, staff please leave the floor temporarily, purpose of a Death Resolution. Mr. Clerk.”
Clerk Mahoney: “House Resolution 790.
WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives learned with sadness of the death of former State
Representative Monroe L. Flinn of Cahokia on November 29, 2005;
WHEREAS, Mr. Flinn was born December 17, 1917, in Batesville, Arkansas; his family moved to Cahokia in 1956; as a young child, he was called "Big Boy" by his aunts, uncles, and his grandmother; this nickname eventually evolved into "Biggie", as he was called by his many, many close friends and relatives; and
WHEREAS, He worked with his father as a barrelmaker before joining Granite City Steel, where he worked for 41 years; he later served as a legislator in the Illinois House of Representatives in Springfield from 1971 to 1995, leading the revision to the Illinois Constitution in 1972; during his tenure as a State Representative, he was noted for unconditionally helping his colleagues and constituents; he will be remembered fondly as a man of common sense and honesty who earned the respect of his Republican colleagues and fellow Democrats alike;
WHEREAS, While serving in the Statehouse, Representative Flinn served on the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR); when he left the House on January 10, 1995, he had the longest record of JCAR service and was its last remaining charter member; in recognition of his years of service on JCAR and in tribute to his unparalleled contribution to establishing and advancing rulemaking oversight in Illinois, the weekly publication of JCAR was named "The Flinn Report"; subscribers and library patrons throughout the State are reminded weekly that Representative
Flinn helped shape and promote a system of regulatory review that serves as a model for other States; and

WHEREAS, During his 23 years as a legislator, he served as Democratic Leader from 1975 to 1980 and on numerous committees, including Financial Institutions where he served as chairman, Counties and Townships as co-chairman, and Legislative Information System Committee as co-chairman; and

WHEREAS, After his retirement, he was appointed by the Secretary of State to serve as chairman on the State of Illinois Merit Commission, which he did until his death;

WHEREAS, Mr. Flinn was active in many civic and charitable organizations over the years; he was a life member of Emeth Lodge 1030 in Cahokia; a member of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies of Southern Illinois; a charter member of the Centreville Men's Club; an honorary member of American Legion Post 784 in Cahokia; a member of the Moose Lodge 423 in Cahokia; a member of the Illinois Sheriffs Association; and a member of Shriners Ainad Temple; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Flinn most treasured possession was his family; he was so proud of his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandson, nieces, nephews, sisters, and brothers; and

WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Monroe J. and Rue, nee Hanks, Flinn; his brothers, Robert and Dale; and his sister, Ellen; and

WHEREAS, The passing of former State Representative Monroe L. Flinn is felt by all who knew him and loved him, especially his wife of 65 years, Freda; his son, Don; his daughters, Carol and her husband Sam and Debbie and her husband Ron;
his grandchildren, Lisa, Mike, Sharon and friend Rob, Kelly and husband Gary, Lori, Bradley, and Megan, Rebecca, and Ronnie; his great-grandchildren, David and Amanda and Anthony, Rachel and Sarah and Abby and Aaron and Jake; his great-great-grandson, Trenton; and his sisters, Anna and Yvonne and Evelyn; and his numerous nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of former State Representative Monroe L. Flinn and extend our sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to his family as an expression of our deepest sympathy.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from St. Clair, Representative Tom Holbrook.”

Holbrook: “Thank you, Speaker. We’re honored today here in the General Assembly to be joined by Monroe’s wife, Freda, of 65 years; his children, Don, Carol, and Debbie and their husbands, Sam and Ron; all of his grandchildren, Lisa, Mike, Sharon, Kelly, Bradley, Megan, Rebecca, Ronnie; and his great-granddaughter, Amanda are here. The only one that didn’t make it is Lori who is now serving in the U.S. Army Intelligence Corp of Arabic and Linguist and she’s stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany. And they’re directly behind me in the gallery. I’ve known Monroe for about 40 years. And quite honestly, when he ran his first time, his biggest challenge wasn’t his opponent, it was to let everybody know, and he knew everybody in town, believe me, that his name was
Monroe not Biggie. And the campaign swung around letting people know that. And Monroe used to tell me story after story about attending different functions or maybe going to his favorite watering hole or the American Legion and reminding everybody of that, that you need to vote for that fellow, Monroe. Well, he won that campaign and he never lost another one. He... he loved politics and stayed in it until the... until the day he passed away. He loved government, he loved politics. And I can tell ya that there was not a better person to sit down than with Monroe and discuss politics and he would make sure you wouldn’t dehydrate in the process. Monroe was known for a lot of talents here in the General Assembly. For you... newer folks that didn’t know him, every presiding officer made sure the process moved along on this House Floor by calling on Monroe ‘cause they knew, when he was called upon, he was gonna move the previous question and shut off the debate. It didn’t happen once, it didn’t happen twice, it happened thousands of times. Many times that was to the applause of his colleagues, some times to the chagrin. Monroe was known for his ability to return to this chamber at a moment’s notice for a vote... vote or for a verification of a vote. Monroe was always soft spoken and he was always to the point and honest. He was humble and he had an ability to get the job done and he loved people. Monroe never worried about the... the PR he’d get out of it. I don’t know the man ever held a press conference or did a press release to announce his accomplishments. But I can tell ya for decades he helped shape this State of Illinois. And when they did the State
Constitution, he was on that board and part chairman of it and he used to tell me, ‘We took the State of Illinois out of the horse and buggy days and brought ‘em into the age of airplanes.’ He was also very active in our local area, but I can tell ya for decades all he did was work for improvements of our highways, our schools, our flood control. And he was really proud of our first modern downstate light rail system, the Metro Link, and the airport system that he set up down there. He also loved JCAR. He always told me, ‘You gotta keep an eye on those bureaucrats, you never know what they’re up to and it’s a great process for us to overlook what they’re doin’.’ When Jim Edgar found out that Monroe’d passed away and he had served with Monroe in several capacities, he said and I quote, ‘He was never nasty or got riled up in a partisan way. Republicans found him as likeable as the Democrats. His word was good and you could always take it to the bank.’ Most of all Monroe, though, was known for his sense of humor. Monroe would liven up any gathering or he could calm down a tense meeting with a couple of his folksy Irish stories or a couple of his stories about him and Senator Hall handling some irate constituent. You were always happy to see him walk in a room you were in, because you knew things were gonna liven up. If you knew Monroe, you were lucky, fortunate, and better for it. His family has asked me to read a short statement and they’d like to let all of you that they cannot express in words how much their dad loved his job. He was honored to serve in the Illinois… as a Illinois State Representative. And to the successors that
serve here, they ask that you serve with integrity, responsibility, and accountability to your constituents and make every vote count. And represent those that elect you so that when this day comes for you and you’re memorialized by your friends and colleagues, you will fill your children’s and… grandchildren’s hearts with pride as our dad has done for us today. For the State of Illinois and the Metro East, our homes, I want to thank Monroe’s family for sharing him with us. For Monroe, I wanna thank you and tell you too, God bless you and Godspeed. Thank you.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Chair recognize the Gentleman from Adams, Representative Art Tenhouse.”

Tenhouse: “Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I first came down here, I was a target and when you deal with folks down here, you kinda learn pretty quickly who… who you can work with and who you can’t. But Monroe was truly a unique individual and I don’t think there’s anyone who can say that they’ve served here with Monroe and they didn’t have a good memory of him. I think he’s a recordholder. There’s no doubt in my mind that he had to have probably… he had to be part magician, because he had the highest voting record with business and labor that I’ve ever seen. He could get endorsed by both groups and I don’t know how he could make a vote and still end up getting support from both sides. And that says a lot about Monroe’s personality. I just think, ya know, I… I wish that as part of today’s activities we’d kind of reach… on both sides of the aisle and realize how Monroe used to do it. Because, you know, in his dealings with JCAR, his dealings with… back in his district I’m sure it was the same
way. It didn’t matter whether you were Republican or Democrat, Monroe tried to figure out a way to do it right. And it… to be able to do that and keep everyone as happy as he did, truly showed his ability and I’m sure that we’re gonna have some great memories of him. And I’m sure he’s probably looking down on us right now and sayin’, ‘Have a cold one.’ But nevertheless, to his family, we’re glad that you shared him with us. And we’re certainly happy that we had that opportunity for all of us who’ve had a chance to deal with him.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Chair recognize the Lady from St. Clair, Representative Wyvetter Younge.”

Younge: “Today we mourn the passing of Monroe Flinn, one of the most effective Legislators ever. One of his major accomplishments was the MidAmerica Airport. When I was first elected, Monroe welcomed me to be a part of the Democratic family. We shall miss Monroe Flinn.”

Speaker Lyons, J.: “Representative Holbrook moves the adoption of House Resolution 790. All those in favor signify by saying ‘aye’; those opposed ‘no’. The ‘ayes’ have it. The House Resolution 790 is adopted. Thank you Flinn Family for joining us today. Chair recognize the Gentleman from McLean, Representative Dan Brady.”

Brady: “Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like to inform the Members of the House Republicans that we will caucus immediately upon adjournment in Room 118. There’ll be a Republican Caucus immediately following Session in Room 118 for the Republicans. Thank you.”
Speaker Lyons, J.: "Thank you, Representative. Seeing no
further business to come before the House today, allowing
perfunctory time for the Clerk, Representative Currie moves
that the House stand adjourned ‘til the hour of 12 noon next
Tuesday, January 24. All those in favor signify by saying
‘aye’; those opposed ‘aye’ (sic-‘no’). And the Adjournment
Resolution is adopted. Have a safe weekend, see ya on
Tuesday. Republicans’ Caucus in Room 118."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order.
Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill
4831, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act
concerning education. House Bill 4832, offered by
Representative Flider, a Bill for an Act concerning
education. House Bill 4833, offered by Representative
Mathias, a Bill for an Act concerning education. House Bill
4834, offered by Representative Mathias, a Bill for an Act
concerning local government. House Bill 4835, offered by
Representative Saviano, a Bill for an Act concerning
transportation. House Bill 4836, offered by Representative
Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning economic development.
House Bill 4837, offered by Representative Poe, a Bill for
an Act in relation to public employee benefits. House Bill
4838, offered by Representative Holbrook, a Bill for an Act
concerning gaming. House Bill 4839, offered by
Representative Hannig, a Bill for an Act concerning
regulation. House Bill 4840, offered by Representative
Sacia, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. House Bill
4841, offered by Representative Tenhouse, a Bill for an Act
in relation to vehicles. House Bill 4842, offered by
RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the
electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the
general election next occurring at least 6 months after the
adoption of this resolution a proposition to amend Article
VIII of the Illinois Constitution by changing Section 2 as
follows:

ARTICLE VIII
FINANCE

SECTION 2. STATE FINANCE
(a) The Governor shall prepare and submit to the General
Assembly, at a time prescribed by law, a State budget for
the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall set forth the
estimated balance of funds available for appropriation at
the beginning of the fiscal year, the estimated receipts,
and a plan for expenditures and obligations during the
fiscal year of every department, authority, public
corporation and quasi-public corporation of the State, every
State college and university, and every other public agency
created by the State, but not of units of local government
or school districts. The budget shall also set forth the
indebtedness and contingent liabilities of the State and
such other information as may be required by law. Proposed
expenditures shall not exceed funds estimated to be
available for the fiscal year as shown in the budget.
(b) The General Assembly by law shall make appropriations for
all expenditures of public funds by the State. Appropriations for a fiscal year shall not exceed funds
estimated by the General Assembly to be available during that year.

(c) For an appropriation for a fiscal year in which the total aggregate appropriation of all moneys not belonging to any special fund in the State treasury exceeds that of the prior fiscal year, an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members of each house of the General Assembly shall be required to approve the appropriation if during the prior fiscal year: (1) borrowing occurred due to significant timing variations between disbursement and receipt of budgeted funds in anticipation of revenues to be collected that year, or (2) borrowing occurred due to failures in revenues of the State.

SCHEDULE
This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act. This has been First Reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment #25. First Reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment #26, offered by Representative Watson.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the general election next occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of this resolution a proposition to amend Article IX of the Illinois Constitution by adding Section 9.1 as follows:

ARTICLE IX
REVENUE

SECTION 1.5. LIMITATION OF ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), no bonds or other evidences of indebtedness that are secured by the full faith and credit of the State may be issued if, after the issuance, in the next State fiscal year after the issuance of the bonds, the amount of debt service (including principal, whether payable at maturity or pursuant to mandatory sinking fund installments, and interest) on all then-outstanding bonds would exceed 7% of the aggregate appropriations of (1) the general funds of the State and (2) moneys derived from fees, excises, or license taxes relating to registration, titles, operation, or use of vehicles on public highways or relating to fuels used for propelling those vehicles, including bond proceeds for the fiscal year immediately prior to the fiscal year of the issuance.
(b) If the Comptroller and Treasurer each consent in writing, bonds may be issued even if the issuance does not comply with subsection (a).

SCHEDULE
This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act. This has been First Reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment #26. First Reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment #27, offered by Representative Scully.
RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the
electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the
general election next occurring at least 6 months after the
adoption of this resolution a proposition to amend Section 1
of Article X of the Illinois Constitution as follows:

ARTICLE X
EDUCATION

SECTION 1. GOAL - FREE SCHOOLS
A fundamental goal of the People of the State is the
educational development of all persons to the limits of
their capacities. The State shall provide for an efficient
system of high quality public educational institutions and
services. Education in public schools through the secondary
level shall be free. There may be such other free education
as the General Assembly provides by law. The State has the
primary responsibility for financing the system of public
education and shall provide no less than 50% of the funding
for the system of public education in order to reduce the
reliance of education funding on real estate taxes.

SCHEDULE
This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being
declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the
Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act. This has been First
Reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment
#27. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory
Session will stand adjourned.”