

OHIO

House

of

Representatives

JOURNAL

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2009

FIRST DAY

Hall of the House of Representatives, Columbus, Ohio
Monday, January 5, 2009, 2:00 o'clock p.m.

This being the day designated by the Constitution of the State of Ohio for the meeting of the General Assembly in regular session, the members-elect of the House of Representatives assembled in the Hall of the Representatives at 2:00 o'clock p.m. and were called to order by The Honorable Jon A. Husted, Speaker of the House of Representatives, One Hundred Twenty-Seventh General Assembly.

The One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly rose for the presentation of the colors by the Oregon Christ Dunberger Post 537 Color Guard.

Prayer was offered by Cantor Sarah Sager, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Pursuant to Section 101.11 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Chair appointed Representative Brown to serve as clerk pro tempore.

The following named persons presented certificates of election as members of the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of Ohio, and having been administered the oath of office by The Honorable Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, or previously having filed a sworn oath of office with the legislative clerk, entered upon the discharge of their duties:

#1-Columbiana		#51 - Stark(part)	
Linda S. Bolon	D	Scott Oelslager	R
#2 - Delaware		#52 - Stark(part)	
Kris Jordan	R	Stephen Slesnick	D
#3 - Wayne		#53 - Butler(part)	
Ron Amstutz	R	Timothy Derickson	R
#4 - Allen		#54 - Butler(part)	
Matt Huffman	R	Courtney E. Combs	R
#5 - Fairfield		#55 - Butler(part)	
Gerald L. Stebelton	R	Bill Coley	R
#6 - Wood		#56 - Lorain(part)	
Randy Gardner	R	Joseph F. Koziura	D
#7 - Cuyahoga(part)		#57 - Lorain(part)	
Kenny Yuko	D	Matt Lundy	D
#8 - Cuyahoga(part)		#58 - Huron, Lorain(part), Seneca(part)	
Armond Budish	D	Terry R. Boose	R
#9 - Cuyahoga(part)		#59 - Mahoning (part)	
Barbara Boyd	D	Ron Gerberry	D
#10 - Cuyahoga(part)		#60 - Mahoning(part)	
Eugene R. Miller	D	Robert F. Hagan	D
#11 - Cuyahoga(part)		#61 - Carroll, Mahoning(part), Stark(part), Tuscarawas(part)	
Sandra Williams	D	Mark D. Okey	D
#12 - Cuyahoga(part)		#62 - Lake(part)	
Michael DeBose	D	Lorraine M. Fende	D

#13 - Cuyahoga(part) Michael J. Skindell	D	#63 - Lake(part) Mark A. Schneider	D
#14 - Cuyahoga(part) Mike Foley	D	#64 - Trumbull(part) Tom Letson	D
#15 - Cuyahoga(part) Timothy J. DeGeeter	D	#65 - Trumbull(part) Sandra Stabile Harwood	D
#16 - Cuyahoga(part) Nan Baker	R	#66 - Clermont(part) Joseph W. Uecker	R
#17 - Cuyahoga(part) Josh Mandel	R	#67 - Warren(part) Shannon Jones	R
#18 - Cuyahoga(part) Matt Patten	D	#68 - Portage(part) Kathleen Chandler	D
#19 - Franklin(part) Marian Harris	D	#69 - Medina(part) William G. Batchelder	R
#20 - Franklin(part) Nancy Garland	D	#70 - Greene(part) Jarrod B. Martin	R
#21 - Franklin(part) Kevin Bacon	R	#71 - Licking(part) Jay Hottinger	R
#22 - Franklin(part) John Patrick Carney	D	#72 - Clark(part) Ross W. McGregor	R
#23 - Franklin(part) Cheryl Grossman	R	#73 - Richland(part) Jay P. Goyal	D
#24 - Franklin(part) Ted Celeste	D	#74 - Defiance(part), Fulton, Williams Bruce W. Goodwin	R
#25 - Franklin(part) Dan Stewart	D	#75 - Defiance(part), Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert Lynn R. Wachtmann	R
#26 - Franklin(part) Tracy Heard	D	#76 - Auglaize(part), Hancock, Hardin Cliff Hite	R
#27 - Franklin(part) W. Carlton Weddington	D	#77 - Darke(part), Mercer, Preble Jim Zehringer	R
#28 - Hamilton(part) Connie Pillich	D	#78 - Auglaize(part), Champaign, Shelby John Adams	R
#29 - Hamilton(part) Louis W. Blessing, Jr.	R	#79 - Darke(part), Miami Richard Adams	R
#30 - Hamilton(part) Robert Mecklenborg	R	#80 - Erie, Ottawa(part) Dennis E. Murray	D
#31 - Hamilton(part) Denise Driehaus	D	#81 - Ottawa(part), Sandusky, Seneca(part) Jeff Wagner	R
#32 - Hamilton(part) Dale Mallory	D	#82 - Crawford, Marion(part), Wyandot Jeffrey A. McClain	R
#33 - Hamilton(part) Tyrone K. Yates	D	#83 - Logan, Marion(part), Union Dave Burke	R
#34 - Hamilton(part) Peter Stautberg	R	#84 - Clark(part), Greene(part), Madison Robert D. Hackett	R
#35 - Hamilton(part), Warren(part) Ron Maag	R	#85 - Fayette, Pickaway(part), Ross(part) Raymond A. Pryor	D
#36 - Montgomery(part) Seth Morgan	R	#86 - Clinton, Highland, Pike David T. Daniels	R
#37 - Montgomery(part) Peggy Lehner	R	#87 - Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence(part), Ross(part), Vinton Clyde Evans	R
#38 - Montgomery(part) Terry Blair	R	#88 - Adams(part), Brown, Clermont(part) Danny R. Bulp	R
#39 - Montgomery(part) Clayton Luckie	D	#89 - Adams(part), Lawrence(part), Scioto Todd Book	D

#40 - Montgomery(part)		#90 - Ashland(part), Knox, Morrow, Richland(part)	
Roland Winburn	D	Margaret Ann Ruhl	R
#41 - Summit(part)		#91 - Hocking, Licking(part), Perry, Pickaway(part)	
Brian G. Williams	D	Dan Dodd	D
#42 - Summit(part)		#92 - Athens, Meigs, Morgan, Washington(part)	
Mike Moran	D	Debbie Phillips	D
#43 - Portage(part), Summit(part)		#93 - Guernsey, Monroe, Muskingum(part), Noble, Washington(part)	
Stephen Dyer	D	Jennifer D. Garrison	D
#44 - Summit(part)		#94 - Coshocton, Muskingum(part)	
Vernon Sykes	D	Troy Balderson	R
#45 - Summit(part)		#95 - Belmont(part), Jefferson	
John Otterman	D	John Domenick	D
#46 - Lucas(part)		#96 - Belmont(part), Harrison, Tuscarawas(part)	
Barbara Sears	R	Allan R. Sayre	D
#47 - Lucas(part)		#97 - Ashland (part), Holmes, Medina (part)	
Peter Ujvagi	D	Dave Hall	R
#48 - Lucas(part)		#98 - Cuyahoga (part), Geauga	
Edna Brown	D	Matthew J. Dolan	R
#49 - Lucas(part)		#99 - Ashtabula, Trumbull (part)	
Matt Szollosi	D	Deborah Newcomb	D
#50 - Stark(part)			
Todd A. Snitchler	R		

Representative Szollosi moved that the oaths of office and certificates of election of absent members-elect be accepted and that the oaths of office be spread upon the pages of the journal.

The motion was agreed to without objection.

The Chair then called to order the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

Speaker Husted addressed the House as follows:

"As a newly elected Senator, I am supposed to be participating at this moment in the opening ceremonies of the Ohio Senate. However, I believe as outgoing Speaker I have an even more important responsibility here in the House.

Our nation's democracy has been an example to the world, and here in Ohio we too have an opportunity and responsibility to set an example for others who will follow us. It is a rare occasion when we not only transition power among leaders, but that too of political parties. So that not just the work of the people of Ohio is done, but that their will is executed.

The importance of honest, visionary leadership by the majority and the responsibility of the minority to constructively question that governance is fundamentally important to a healthy democracy.

Everyone in this chamber shares that responsibility and I wish Speaker Budish and all of you wisdom, courage, and God's blessings in your proceedings in the 128th General Assembly."

The House then proceeded to the next order of business that being the election of officers in compliance with the provisions of Section 101.13 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The election of Speaker being in order, Representative Lundy of the 57th district nominated for the office of Speaker, Representative Armond Budish of the 8th district.

Representative Batchelder of the 69th district seconded the nomination.

Representative Boyd of the 9th district seconded the nomination.

Representative Foley of the 14th district moved that the nominations of Speaker be closed.

The motion was agreed to without objection.

The House then proceeded to the election of Speaker.

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
			Zehringer-97.

Having received a constitutional majority of all votes cast, Armond Budish was declared the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

The Chair appointed Representatives S. Williams, Miller, Book, Fende,

Koziura, Domenick, Dolan, Blessing, and Mandel, to escort Speaker Budish to the bar of the House.

Upon being presented, Speaker Budish was administered the oath of office by The Honorable Lance Mason, and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

The Speaker then addressed the House as follows:

"Good afternoon. It is such a great pleasure for me to welcome you to this, the 128th General Assembly. First and foremost, a special thanks to all of you in the galleries, friends, and family of our new and returning members. Serving the people of Ohio is truly a family affair. Your sacrifices and support make our work possible. My heartfelt thanks to Judge, and former legislator, Lance Mason, for swearing me in today. Lance, you've been a wise advisor and a true friend. I only regret that you're no longer in the Statehouse so that we might share the challenges together.

Thanks go to Chief Justice Thomas Moyer for literally lending a hand today, and to Speaker Jon Husted for opening this session. Transitioning the House after 14 years is a tough task, and Jon and his staff worked hard to assure that the transition went orderly and smoothly. I admit that we members of the Democratic caucus and Speaker Husted have had a difference, or maybe two, over the years, but we never questioned his commitment to this institution or to the people of Ohio.

My sincere thanks to all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as Speaker. What an awesome responsibility; what a wonderful privilege. I will work tirelessly for you.

If I gave the appropriate thanks to all the people who deserve it, you'd never get to the punch and cookies today. So forgive me, I hope to thank you privately.

That said, I want to thank my family. They're here with me today, and they've been with me every step of the way on this journey. Daniel, Ryan – I love you so much. Many of you have met my wife Amy, the love of my life. As she tells me all the time, without her, I'm nothing. And it's true!

Becoming Speaker of the House is a huge responsibility, long hours, and a lot of work. But there are a few perks. For example, one of my jobs at home is to take out the garbage each week. One morning after winning the Speaker spot, I very happily told Amy that Speakers of the Ohio House don't have to take out the garbage. She immediately, and convincingly, explained that I may not have to take out the garbage at the Ohio House, but I'd better hurry and get the garbage out at the Budish house. So much for the perks.

Now, this is the moment when Speakers historically offer inspirational words. For example, Speaker Husted asked members to consider what they would say on their final day in the legislature, and then followed with some thoughtful guidance. I too have a question for you – "When you ran for this office, what were you thinking?" We're looking at a \$7 billion deficit!

Actually, I've been thinking a lot about our financial problems. The economy's the toughest it's been in decades, maybe longer. A \$7 billion budget hole is almost beyond belief. But we must and we will figure it out. All of us together. And we'll have to be creative.

Just last week, I woke up in the middle of the night worrying about this budget. I flipped on the TV, and right there in front of me appeared the solution to our financial woes. Maybe it was divine intervention, right Cantor Sager?

The confident gentleman on the screen said, for just \$29.99, he could teach me how to sell anything and make huge profits on Ebay. So I figured, what the heck, and I put Leader Batchelder's desk up for sale. Bill, I got a pretty good price, too! Unfortunately, it just wasn't gonna be enough to fill our budget deficit, so don't panic, you'll still have a place to sit.

I do some of my best thinking in the middle of the night. Recently, I woke up and thought: "Now that I'm the Speaker, what do I really do after I bang the gavel?" I have spent hours pondering the role of the Speaker. And I wanted to share a few of my thoughts with you.

Ideally, the Speaker really shouldn't need to speak all that much. But he does utilize four other senses.

First, a good Speaker must be a good listener. I believe an essential part of my job is to help each of you here on the floor of this Chamber to effectively represent your constituents. No one knows their needs better than you. The Speaker must listen to each of you, and I will do my best to do that. Our days are so filled running from meeting to meeting, yet we don't get to really meet. To that end, I will invite all of you, Democrats and Republicans, to stop by my office for conversation on a regularly scheduled basis. We'll make it a real "open House."

The second sense a good Speaker must use is the sense of touch, to reach out to all of us here today, to bring us together to solve the huge challenges we face. It won't be easy, with two-year terms and term limits constantly creating forces to pull us apart. Bill and I have talked about this: we need to get to know each other better away from work. In an effort to try to bring us together on the House floor, I have asked Representatives Hite and Letson to coordinate several bipartisan social opportunities off the House floor. Who better than Tom and Cliff?

We can also serve Ohioans more effectively by reducing partisanship in the administration of the House. In part, this can be achieved by professionalizing our Clerk's office in a non-partisan manner. We will begin what I hope will become a new tradition of naming a Clerk from the majority party and a deputy clerk from the minority party. Several other states have adopted this model with success. I want to make it work here too. I am very pleased to introduce our new Clerk, Tom Sherman, and our new Deputy Clerk, Laura Clemens, who both should bring a new era of professionalism without

partisanship to the Clerk's office.

I would especially like to thank Republican leader Bill Batchelder for his support of these efforts. Make no mistake – Bill will be a vigorous advocate for the members of his caucus. But no one has more respect and love for this institution, and I appreciate the tone you have always set. I think all of us on both sides of the aisle will benefit from the friendship Bill and I share.

Bipartisan cooperation must also extend from the House to the Senate and the Governor. Senate President Harris and Governor Strickland over the last 2 years have worked cooperatively, with the House, to enact major initiatives including a budget, an energy bill, and an economic stimulus package. We in the House are committed to a bipartisan partnership with the Senate and the Governor.

The third sense a good Speaker must use is the sense of sight. The people of Ohio are hurting. We face huge problems. We are hemorrhaging jobs. Businesses and our young people are leaving the state. More than 1 million 300,000 Ohioans have no health insurance, and many more are having a tough time paying the premiums for the insurance they do have.

We are failing both our young and our old: Too many of our kids can't receive a quality education, let alone an excellent one. And too many of our parents and grandparents are institutionalized rather than have the opportunity to age in their own homes.

A good Speaker must create a vision for the state, to help improve the lives of Ohioans and lift those who cannot lift themselves. I have a vision, a vision which I believe we can achieve, even given the serious fiscal restraints now upon us. And while it will change and evolve as I listen to you, I'd like to give you a brief preview.

First, I envision Ohio becoming the leader for "entrepreneurial capitalism." We in Ohio have a rich history of entrepreneurs building successful businesses that create and sustain large numbers of jobs. Think of the many Fortune 500 companies we have and have had here in Ohio, companies like Proctor and Gamble, Eaton, Limited Brands, Goodyear, American Greetings, Sherwin-Williams, KeyCorp, and Owens Corning. These companies didn't move here, they started and grew up here. Over the last several decades, that spirit of entrepreneurship has faded. Now is the time to remake Ohio in the spirit of the great entrepreneurs of our history, by creating an economic policy built upon innovation and growth.

What can we do? I can envision us expanding existing programs that are working, such as the Ohio Capital Fund, the Innovation Ohio Loan Fund, and the Technology Investment Tax Credit. And I can envision a package of new, targeted tax credits and incentives, which may include an income tax break for Ohioans working in start-up companies; an Ohio New Markets Tax Credit to promote new businesses in Ohio; and a program enabling start-ups to sell their net operating losses.

If we foster entrepreneurship, which is entirely consistent and aligned with the Dept of Development's Strategic Plan, we can move Ohio to the forefront of today's new economy.

Second, I can envision the creation of a "compact with Ohio cities." This could spur a re-birth of our urban centers, making our cities magnets for talent, jobs, and investment. And it would help our urban areas become more efficient.

As our part of the compact, the State could offer a variety of benefits to our core communities, such as waiving income taxes for several years on all newly created jobs; increasing the state share of school construction projects; and facilitating free broadband services.

Those accepting state incentives and benefits will incur responsibilities. In exchange, we could expect participating cities to waive municipal income taxes on all jobs subject to the state's income tax waiver; participate in state purchasing cooperatives for goods and services; participate in a review of services like fire and waste collection to determine if they could be delivered more effectively on a regional basis, and agree to abide by the results. Now is a fitting moment to thank all those Ohioans who work every day to provide the vital services we need and that we sometimes take for granted in our communities.

Of course, we must continue to attend to the needs of our rural areas as well. Agriculture is one of our key economic strengths, and we must support and grow our family farms.

Third, I envision Ohio becoming a center for "green-collar jobs." The state is in a unique position to stimulate a substantial market for the products and services that green technology companies offer.

The key is our many public buildings, which are large energy users. In the short term, we could begin with simple energy savings retrofits, which save public dollars.

The state provides significant dollars for capital projects, and we could tie these funds to meeting energy efficiency requirements.

I can envision authorizing state and local governments to issue bonds for energy efficiency projects. These bonds would be repaid using revenues recouped through long-term energy savings.

And I can envision the creation of an Ohio Energy Resource Center, in conjunction with a state university, which would provide state and local governments access to the expertise and resource referrals needed to accomplish these goals.

Fourth, I envision a State of Ohio in which every student has the opportunity to receive a high-quality education. But how can we provide more educational opportunities with limited state resources? One answer may be found in the thoughtful application of technology.

Imagine making available to every high school student top-quality classes in foreign languages, AP Physics, and European History, with both high school and college credits available. Imagine providing top-notch classes in science and math to schools having trouble hiring qualified teachers. Interactive classes conducted via television, or over the internet: these ideas are not science fiction, but are real options available today. Technology can be used to offer all Ohio students educational opportunities they would not otherwise have available to them.

There is no shortage of problems seeking solutions. I envision building on the recommendations of the Unified Long Term Care Budget Workgroup to enable many more of our parents and grandparents to age at home and in the community, while making sure that nursing homes still have the resources needed to care for our family members who are aged and disabled. And I can envision building on the work done last year by the House Health Care Access Committee and the Strickland Administration to provide better access to quality health care for all Ohioans.

The fourth sense the Speaker, and all of us must use, is common sense. This is one sense that so often seems to be missing in our problem-solving efforts. We can do better.

The challenges facing Ohio are greater than they've been in decades, maybe ever. We're facing a \$7 billion deficit in the next budget, which we'll begin wrestling with in a month. So how can we envision moving Ohio forward when the fiscal quicksands of the budget threaten to engulf us?

Tax credits and incentives cost money and must be considered in the context of the entire budget. Many will only be possible if adequate resources can be found. But as Abraham Lincoln said, "Determine that the thing can and shall be done, and then we shall find the way."

With great challenges come great opportunities. We have assembled a strong team in the House to tackle the job. This year's class of new members, D's and R's, is very impressive. We have a Senate President and a House Minority Leader who have demonstrated their willingness to put aside partisanship to move Ohio forward. And we have a Governor and Lt. Governor who have done a truly masterful job in beginning the process of turning Ohio around.

Some of the initiatives I've envisioned can be done without any substantial cost to the state. Others will require an investment in our future, which again will depend on finding adequate resources. But while we may face a budget deficit, there is no deficit in the spirit and creativity of Ohioans. And it is that indomitable spirit that I hope to engage so that our children and grandchildren can take pride in our accomplishments. Ohio deserves nothing less than our best.

I pledge you mine.

Thank you."

The next order of business being the election of the Speaker Pro Tempore, Representative Dyer of the 43rd district nominated for said office Matt Szollosi of the 49th district.

Representative Bolon of the 1st district seconded the nomination.

Representative Foley of the 14th district moved that the nominations of Speaker Pro Tempore be closed.

The motion was agreed to without objection.

The House then proceeded to the election of Speaker Pro Tempore.

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Uecker	Ujvagi	Wachtmann
Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.	Williams S.
Winburn	Yates	Yuko	Zehringer
			Budish-97.

Having received a constitutional majority of all votes cast, Representative Matt Szollosi was declared the duly elected Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

The Chair appointed Representatives Mallory, Otterman, DeBose, Chandler, Okey, Yates, Gardner, Jones, and Hite, to escort Representative Szollosi to the bar of the House.

Upon being presented, Representative Szollosi was administered the oath of office by The Honorable Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme

Court, and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

The next order of business being the election of the majority floor leader, the assistant majority floor leader, the majority whip, and the assistant majority whip of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution:

H. R. No. 1-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to the election of the majority floor leader, the assistant majority floor leader, the majority whip, and the assistant majority whip for the 128th General Assembly of Ohio.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio have been advised that the caucus of Democratic members have chosen Jennifer D. Garrison of House District #93 as majority floor leader, Tracy Maxwell Heard of House District #26 as assistant majority floor leader, Jay Goyal of House District #73 as majority whip, and Allan R. Sayre of House District #96 as assistant majority whip; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly that Jennifer D. Garrison be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of majority floor leader; that Tracy Maxwell Heard be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of assistant majority floor leader; that Jay Goyal be, and upon the adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of majority whip; and that Allan R. Sayre be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of assistant majority whip.

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran

Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

The majority floor leader, Representative Garrison; the assistant majority floor leader, Representative Heard; the majority whip, Representative Goyal; assistant majority whip, Representative Sayre were escorted to the bar of the House by Representatives Letson, Luckie, Yuko, Ujvagi, D. Stewart, Hagan, Skindell, Watchmann, Hottinger and Amstutz, were administered the oath of office by The Honorable Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, and entered upon the discharge of their duties.

The next order of business being the election of minority leader of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution:

H. R. No. 2-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to the election of the minority leader for the 128th General Assembly of Ohio.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio have been advised that the caucus of Republican members has chosen William G. Batchelder of House District #69 as minority leader; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly that William G. Batchelder be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of minority leader.

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke

Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stauberg	Stebelon	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

The minority leader, Representative Batchelder was escorted to the bar of the House by Representatives Amstutz, Huffman, Mandel, Maag, Wachtmann, McClain, Boyd, Sykes, and Hagan, was administered the oath of office by The Honorable Alice Batchelder, and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

The next order of business being the election of the assistant minority leader, the minority whip, and the assistant minority whip of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution:

H. R. No. 3-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to the election of the assistant minority leader, the minority whip, and the assistant minority whip for the 128th General Assembly of Ohio.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio have been advised that the caucus of Republican members has chosen Louis W. Blessing, Jr. of House District #29 as assistant minority leader, John Adams of House District #78 as minority whip, and Kris Jordan of House District #2 as assistant minority whip; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly that Louis W. Blessing, Jr. be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of assistant minority leader; that

John Adams be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of minority whip; and that Kris Jordan be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of assistant minority whip.

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelsluger
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

The assistant minority leader, Representative Blessing; the minority whip, Representative Adams; the assistant minority whip, Representative Jordan; were escorted to the bar of the House by Representatives Combs, Baker, Balderson, Burke, Mecklenborg, Legner, Yates, Harwood, and Celeste, were administered the oath of office by The Honorable Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, and entered upon the discharge of their duties.

The next order of business being the election of the officials of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution:

H. R. No. 4-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to the election of officials of the House of Representatives and empowering the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to sign vouchers.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly, that Thomas Lee Sherman be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of Clerk; and that Laura P. Clemens be, and upon adoption of this resolution is, hereby elected to the office of Deputy Clerk; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the terms of office of the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk shall be for a period of two years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That except in cases in which the signature or approval of the speaker is required by law, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk of the House is hereby directed and empowered to sign all vouchers to be presented to the auditor of state for the payment of any claim or claims against the state for service rendered, supplies furnished, money expended, or liabilities incurred in connection with the proper operation of the House of Representatives.

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

Having received a constitutional majority of all votes cast, the above named persons were duly elected administrative officers of the Ohio House of Representatives, and having been administered the oath of office by the Honorable Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, entered upon the discharge of their duties.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution, requesting that it be read by title only and spread upon the pages of the journal.

H. R. No. 5-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to employment and compensation of employees of the House of Representatives preparatory to and during House organization.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly, that the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives is hereby authorized to pay all employees actually employed preparatory to House organization of the 128th General Assembly from December 31, 2008 to January 5, 2009, the date of the convening of the 128th General Assembly, at the same salary that was paid them during the 127th General Assembly.

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko

Zehringer

Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

Representative Szollosi offered the following resolution, requesting that it be read by title only and spread upon the pages of the journal.

H. R. No. 6-Representative Szollosi.

To provide for the offering of the pledge of allegiance to the flag by the members of the House of Representatives at the opening session of each week.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly shall make the following pledge of allegiance to the flag at the opening session of each week.

"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."

The question being, "Shall the resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The resolution was adopted.

Representative Szollosi offered the following concurrent resolution, requesting that it be read by title only and spread upon the pages of the journal.

H. C. R. No. 1-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to a committee to wait upon the Governor to let him know the 128th General Assembly is in session.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), that a committee of eight on the part of the House of Representatives and eight on the part of the Senate be appointed to wait upon and inform the Governor that the two houses of the 128th General Assembly have organized and are ready to receive any communication he may desire to transmit.

The question being, "Shall the concurrent resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The concurrent resolution was adopted.

Representative Szollosi offered the following concurrent resolution, requesting that it be read by title only and spread upon the pages of the journal.

H. C. R. No. 2-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to the appointment of a joint committee to attend the inauguration of The Honorable Barack Obama.

WHEREAS, On the Twentieth Day of January, 2009, The Honorable Barack Obama will be inaugurated as President of the United States, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the State of Ohio be represented in its official capacity at said inauguration of The Honorable Barack Obama as President of the United States, on the Twentieth Day of January, 2009, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the members of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio, that a committee not to exceed eight members of each house, be selected by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to attend and represent the State of Ohio at said inauguration of The Honorable Barack Obama as President of the United States.

The question being, "Shall the concurrent resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko

Zehringer

Budish-98.

The concurrent resolution was adopted.

Representative Szollosi offered the following concurrent resolution, requesting that it be read by title only and spread upon the pages of the journal.

H. C. R. No. 3-Representative Szollosi.

Relative to convening in Joint Convention.

BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), that the two houses of the General Assembly convene in joint convention on January 6, 2009, at 12:00 o'clock p.m., pursuant to Section 3 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Ohio and section 3505.34 of the Ohio Revised Code, to witness the opening, announcing, and canvassing of the abstract of the votes cast for the office of attorney general at the general election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 2008.

The question being, "Shall the concurrent resolution be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted - yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Representatives

Adams J.	Adams R.	Amstutz	Bacon
Baker	Balderson	Batchelder	Blair
Blessing	Bolon	Book	Boose
Boyd	Brown	Bubp	Burke
Carney	Celeste	Chandler	Coley
Combs	Daniels	DeBose	DeGeeter
Derickson	Dodd	Dolan	Domenick
Driehaus	Dyer	Evans	Fende
Foley	Gardner	Garland	Garrison
Goodwin	Goyal	Grossman	Hackett
Hagan	Hall	Harris	Harwood
Heard	Hite	Hottinger	Huffman
Jones	Jordan	Koziura	Lehner
Letson	Luckie	Lundy	Maag
Mallory	Mandel	Martin	McClain
McGregor	Mecklenborg	Miller	Moran
Morgan	Murray	Newcomb	Oelslager
Okey	Otterman	Patten	Phillips
Pillich	Pryor	Ruhl	Sayre
Schneider	Sears	Skindell	Slesnick
Snitchler	Stautberg	Stebelton	Stewart
Sykes	Szollosi	Uecker	Ujvagi
Wachtmann	Wagner	Weddington	Williams B.
Williams S.	Winburn	Yates	Yuko
Zehringer			Budish-98.

The concurrent resolution was adopted.

Message from the Senate

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate is now in session and ready for the transaction of business.

Attest: Vincent L. Keeran,
Clerk.

Message from the Speaker

Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 1, the Speaker hereby appoints the following members to the Committee to wait upon the Governor:

Representatives Szollosi (chair), Garrison, Heard, Goyal, Sayre, Batchelder, Blessing, Adams, and Jordan.

Pursuant to the motion of Representative Szollosi the following oath of office was entered upon the journal:

State of Ohio
County of Franklin

I, Ronald V. Gerberry, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and faithfully to discharge and perform all duties incumbent upon me as a member of The Ohio House of Representatives, according to the best of my ability and understanding; and this I do as I shall answer unto God.

/s/ RONALD V. GERBERRY
Ronald V. Gerberry

Sworn to and subscribed before me of this 18th day of December, 2008

/s/ ARMOND BUDISH
Armond Budish
State Representative
8th House District

On motion of Representative Szollosi, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 11:00 o'clock a.m.

Attest: THOMAS SHERMAN,
Clerk.