

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Friday, July 8, 1955

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The Senate convened at 11:00 o'clock A. M., pursuant to adjournment on Thursday, July 7, 1955.

The President in the Chair.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President	Connor	Houghton	Pearce
Baker	Douglas	Johns	Pope
Barber	Edwards	Johnson	Rawls
Beall	Floyd	Kickliter	Rodgers
Black	Fraser	King	Rood
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Melvin	Shands
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morgan	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Morrow	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Neblett	

—35.

A quorum present.

Senators Stenstrom, Phillips and Clarke were excused from attendance upon the session.

The following Prayer was offered by the Senate Chaplain, Reverend E. E. Snow:

O God, we thank Thee for the work that has been done in this session. Time after time we have seemed to be close to a solution and then failed.

Almighty God, we pray that Thou wilt quicken each of our consciences to work harder at this job of reapportionment.

Fill us with the simple and yet steadfast purpose of doing Thy will. May we heartily surrender our minds and hearts, all our powers, to do the work which our people, and our State have committed to us.

Save us from weak resignation to the difficulty of this or any other task that may fall to us. Grant to us faith, determination, and courage.

Give us a passion for righteousness like unto that of the Son of God and worthy of our State and the trust that has been placed in us. Amen.

The reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

The Senate daily Journal of Thursday, July 7, 1955, was corrected and as corrected was approved.

Senator Melvin moved that the Senate recess until 12:00 o'clock, Noon, this day.

Which was agreed to and the Senate took a recess at 11:08 o'clock A. M., until 12:00 o'clock, Noon, this day.

The Senate reconvened at 12:00 o'clock, Noon, pursuant to recess order.

The President in the Chair.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President	Connor	Houghton	Pearce
Baker	Douglas	Johns	Pope
Barber	Edwards	Johnson	Rawls
Beall	Floyd	Kickliter	Rodgers
Black	Fraser	King	Rood
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Melvin	Shands
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morgan	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Morrow	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Neblett	

—35.

A quorum present.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS, MEMORIALS, BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Senator Stratton—

Senate Bill No. 15-X(55):

A bill to be entitled An Act to apportion the representation of the State of Florida in the Senate by amending and re-enacting Section 10.01, Florida Statutes.

Which was read the first time by title only and referred to the Committee on Reapportionment.

By Senator Johns—

Senate Resolution No. 16-X(55):

A RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF A COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES OF CERTAIN STATE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

WHEREAS, at the 1955 regular session of the Legislature of Florida, the State Senate earnestly sought the enactment of legislation to reapportion the state, as contemplated by Article VII, Section 3, Florida Constitution; and that when such efforts failed, since June 6, 1955, the Legislature has been exclusively engaged with such responsible and serious problem of reapportionment, in pursuance of said constitutional provision; and

WHEREAS, the Senate has conscientiously sought to resolve such problem within the spirit and intent of the Constitution, and continues to strive to accomplish the solution thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Senate, as a constitutional legislative body and the members thereof should not be obstructed and embarrassed in their labors to attain the aforesaid purpose by the importunities and inducements of persons seeking to influence the Senators in relation to said problem of reapportionment and, thereby, seeking to influence the action of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that the Chairman and certain members of the State Road Department of Florida, the Chairman of Florida State Turnpike Authority, and certain members of the Governor's Office Staff have engaged in such lobbying activities in relation to said problem; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that said state officers and employees, or certain of them, have offered as inducements to various senators, in an effort to influence such senators concerning their action in relation to reapportionment, the following, to wit: the promise of highway construction in the respective districts of the senators sought to be so influenced; the promise of state jobs to persons to be designated by or agreeable to the senators so sought to be influenced; and the promise of the placing of required state insurance coverages through certain of the senators or through agents designated by the senators, such promised allotment or placing of said insurance to be to the advantage of the senators so sought to be influenced; and

WHEREAS, if such reports or any part thereof are true, the lobbying activities of said state officers and employees, or any of them, constitute an unwarranted invasion of and interference with this legislative branch of government by representatives of executive and administrative departments; and if such reports of offers of inducements are true, they approach

corrupt practices and are tantamount to the offering of bribes to influence official actions of senators; and

WHEREAS, if such reports are not true, harm has been occasioned to such mentioned officers and employees, and without delay such reports should be corrected, denounced and put to rest; and in any event the truth or falsity of such reports should be determined in the interest of decent government and the orderly functioning of the State Senate:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the State of Florida, that the President of the Senate be and he hereby is directed to appoint from the body of the Senate five members thereof to constitute a committee to investigate the aforesaid reports; that upon appointment, such committee be charged with the responsibility of expeditiously holding such hearings and making such inquiries as to enable said committee to ascertain with all possible certainty the truth or falsity of said reports, and thereupon to make its written findings and determinations to the President of the Senate in relation thereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when such committee report has been so delivered to the President of the Senate, he refer it to the Senate for such further action as may by the Senate be deemed appropriate.

Which was read the first time in full and referred to the Committee on Reapportionment.

Senator Melvin moved that the Senate recess until 2:00 o'clock P. M., this day.

Which was agreed to and the Senate took a recess at 12:20 o'clock P. M., until 2:00 o'clock P. M., this day.

The Senate reconvened at 2:00 o'clock P. M., pursuant to recess order.

The President in the Chair.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President	Black	Carraway	Floyd
Baker	Bronson	Connor	Fraser
Barber	Cabot	Douglas	Gautier (28th)
Beall	Carlton	Edwards	Gautier (13th)

Getzen	Kicklitter	Neblett	Rood
Hodges	King	Pearce	Shands
Houghton	Melvin	Pope	Stratton
Johns	Morgan	Rawls	Tapper
Johnson	Morrow	Rodgers	

—35.

A quorum present.

Senator Pearce moved that the Senate adjourn to reconvene at 4:00 o'clock P. M., Monday, July 11, 1955.

Pending consideration of the motion made by Senator Pearce, Senator Morgan moved, as a substitute motion, that the Senate adjourn to reconvene at 4:00 o'clock P. M., Tuesday, July 12, 1955.

The question was put on the substitute motion made by Senator Morgan.

A roll call was demanded.

Upon call of the roll on the motion made by Senator Morgan, the vote was:

Yeas—9.

Carlton	Gautier (28th)	Morgan
Douglas	Johns	Rood
Floyd	Kicklitter	Stratton

Nays—26.

Mr. President	Carraway	Houghton	Pope
Baker	Connor	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	King	Rodgers
Beall	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Black	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Tapper
Bronson	Getzen	Neblett	
Cabot	Hodges	Pearce	

So the substitute motion failed of adoption.

The question recurred on the motion made by Senator Pearce.

Which was agreed to and the Senate stood adjourned at 2:40 o'clock P. M., until 4:00 o'clock P. M., Monday, July 11, 1955.