NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

July 8, 2009

3:05 p.m.

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

SENATOR ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS, Acting President

ANGELO J. APONTE, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: The Senate will please come to order.

I ask everyone present to rise and recite with me the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

(Whereupon, the assemblage recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.)

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: In the absence of clergy, may we all bow our heads for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, the assemblage respected a moment of silence.)

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you.

Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, good afternoon, Madam President. I'd like to ask, is there a proclamation by the Governor at the desk?

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Yes, Senator Smith, there is a proclamation here at the desk.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: "Pursuant to the power vested in me by Article IV, Section 3 of the Constitution, I hereby convene the Senate of the State of New York in Extraordinary Session, at the Capitol, in the City of Albany, on the eighth day of July, two thousand nine, at three o'clock p.m., for the purpose of considering legislation I will submit with respect to various subjects, and acting on gubernatorial nominations.

"Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State in the City of Albany this seventh day of July in the year two thousand nine, by the Governor, David A. Paterson."

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: The proclamation having been read, the Senate is in extraordinary session.

Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, Madam President. Would you please recognize Senator Dean Skelos.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Certainly.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Senator Stewart-Cousins. Do you know anything about -- are you going to be Lieutenant Governor later today, or --

(Laughter.)

SENATOR SKELOS: -- is there anything you'd like to mention to all your colleagues here?

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Senator Skelos, this is different from the exchanges we usually have.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR SKELOS: Unfortunately, I just can't say ditto, but I have to read this statement as I have in the past.

And, you know, we convened this extraordinary session at the Governor's request, and in keeping with the decision of the court that we have to convene as a body. The designation of a presiding officer should be made by Senator Espada or myself, pursuant to the vote which took place on June 8th. Therefore, we do not recognize that you are the appropriately designated presiding

officer.

Therefore, I ask that the agenda be laid aside, and I move that the Senate adjourn this special session sine die.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you, Senator.

Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you very much, Madam President.

Given that we are not going to be taking up any legislative activity, I ask that we will adjourn this 17th extraordinary session sine die.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you, Senator Smith.

On motion of Senator Smith, the 17th extraordinary session is adjourned sine die.

(Whereupon, at 3:09 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)