PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Senator Bernard suggests the absence of a quorum. Members, when the machines are opened, quorum call. Votes machine, quorum call. Senator [INDISCERNIBLE 00:00:14] is here. Votes machines, Senator Fields is here. Senator McMath is here. Senator Abraham is here. Senator Robert Mills is here. Close machines. Thirty-five members in a quorum. Senator Hewitt, would you like personal privilege?

SENATOR SHARON HEWITT: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, as you probably have figured out this morning, I asked the speaker and the chairman not to hear Senate Bill 15. That was the Supreme Court bill that passed this body 27 to 12. You know after 30 years, I still very much believe that the Supreme Court needs to be looked at. We need to re-evaluate drawing the Supreme Court boundaries in accordance with responsibilities that have been given to us in the Louisiana Constitution. I also think there's been a strong case for action in looking at the rest of the judicial system and redrawing their boundaries. But that's a tall order and a considerable amount of work. And given the

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workload that we've undertaken this week and in drawing the boundaries of the Congress and the Senate and the House and BESE and the PSC, I thought it was probably better to wait and address the Supreme Court and perhaps some of the other judiciary court systems at a future date. And so, for that reason. I just wanted to say, thank you for your commitment to that. I'm committed to continuing to work with you. And let's not let another 30 years go by before we address this. So, more to come. Let's keep working together and I look forward to doing that with you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you, Senator Hewitt. Thank you.

SECRETARY DIXON: Messages from the House, the House has finally passed the following Senate bills; Senate Bill 1 without amendments. Respectfully submitted, Michelle Fontenot, clerk of House. Senate bills returned from the house with amendments; Senate Bill 5 by Senator Hewitt. It's an act to amend Title 18 relative to congressional districts to provide for the redistricting of Louisiana Congressional District. It comes from the house with the set of

house floor amendments and the summaries have been passed out to you at your desk.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Senator Hewitt.

SENATOR SHARON HEWITT: Thank you, Mr. President. Members earlier we amended House Bill 1 which we passed out of his body and sent back to the House. The amendment that they have put on Senate Bill 5 is identical to what we did in this body. And so, we will have, should you choose to agree with me to concur in that amendment, we will send two identical bills to the governor again in a show of unity from both the House and the Senate. And so, you have a summary before you. It is identical to the amendment that we've already considered. I would move to concur.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Right, there are no questions. Senator Hewitt has moved to concur in the House amendment to Senate Bill 5. When the machines are open, all those in favor of concurrence will vote yes. Those opposed vote nay and the secretary will open the machines. Voting machines. Are you through voting? Are you through voting members? Closing machines. 26 yeas and nine nays and the amendments have been concurred in. Senator Hewitt on Personal Privilege.

[00:05:00]

SENATOR SHARON HEWITT: I'm going to ask the staff if they would join me over here on the steps are. I'll call them our redistricting staff. Mr. President, thank you for giving me a moment of personal privilege. You know, first of all, I would like to thank you Mr. President for your leadership in this redistricting session, your personal work on the Senate District Maps which was extensive and went on for months as we all know. And I also on a personal note I appreciate your advising counsel on the other maps. I think we have had an extremely successful session. And let the record reflect we are finishing probably in the history of all time two days early. So I think that's tremendous. So thank you Mr. President for everything you've done on this session.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you.

SENATOR SHARON HEWITT: I'd also like to recognize our Senate secretary for her leadership and her experience in redistricting. You know, this is a new process for many of us and it's been very helpful to me, for Yolanda to help guide us through this process to educate us and

1 advise us from a legal standpoint and to help
2 point us in the right direction. So, madam
3 secretary, thank you very much again for your
4 leadership in this process. I'd also like to
5 thank our committee members. You all had a
6 tremendous task. We've been hooked at the hip for
7 many, many months and so thank you for your
8 commitment to this process, your attendance at
9 the roadshows, your attendance at the committee
10 hearings. You were terrific to work with and so,
11 I'm very appreciative to the committee members
12 and look forward to all of the work that we still
13 have ahead of us. To the authors of the bills, we
14 authored 47 bills in these last few weeks both
15 about half on the Senate side and half on the
16 House side. There was lots of great discussion
17 and debate in that process and I think we brought
18 forward many good ideas that were worthy of
19 consideration. And so, I appreciate your efforts.
20 These are not easy bills to draft, it's not easy
21 work to do and I appreciate you all doing that.
22 To our counterparts on the House side, the
23 speaker and the chairman and the House and
24 Governmental Affairs committee members and staff,
25 they were also terrific to work with. We traveled

together and we work together. Our staffs were working together all the way to the end and that made the process much better. Last but certainly not least, I want to thank our staff and they're over here on the side, the folks that were most involved with redistricting. You all worked with then, those of you that authored bills or offered amendments. I really had no idea how complicated it was to draft these bills so, not only do you have to work to make sure every precinct is listed, but you've got to configure the maps and check all the numbers and it's really quite a different thing than drafting a bill and I think they did it flawlessly. And so, I want to thank you all. And they traveled with us of course on the roadshow. I want to thank you all; Jay, Debbie and Wiley, Sue Moran, Bill Blair, Lord Gail Sullivan, Matt De Ville, Lorenz Simoneau, Angela Bizet. You even stepped in and helped us quite a bit. We appreciate that. There's a whole army of proof readers and people that were making photocopies and maps at all hours of the night somewhere upstairs. I have no idea what floor they're on but there's been a tremendous amount of people involved in helping us to be successful

and I could not be prouder of your effort and the teamwork you showed. And honestly, I think with all those bills and all those amendments, I don't think to my knowledge we ever lost a single precinct. So thank you all very much. I appreciate you all. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you. Yeah, you all moved a lot of assets into a lot of different districts and turns out they all stayed right where they were all those assets. You just move the lines. Thank you staff. It was a tremendous job and I really personally want to thank you as well. Appreciate all of the efforts you put in the many late nights. So thank you very much.

[00:10:02]

SECRETARY DIXON: Senator Mizell moves to revert to introduction of Senate resolutions, Senate Resolution #9 by Senator Mizell. It's a resolution to request the appointment of a committee to notify the governor that the legislature is ready to adjourn.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Madame Secretary, can we hold that just for one second? I did fail to recognize somebody, Senator Milligan, as for

personal privilege and I apologize. Senator Milligan.

SENATOR BARRY MILLIGAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members and I reiterate what Senator Hewitt has said about our staff, our president, our secretary, that countless hours that went into their work starting back September in some cases before is admirable. It's a yeoman's task to redistrict 4,000 precincts but somehow we managed to get it done and it is a lot of our first time to do this. We didn't know what to expect but somehow we made it through. But I'll tell you that one person that we need to recognize, I feel we need to recognize, the committee feels is our Chairwoman Sharon Hewitt. Thank you for your leadership. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you Senator Milligan. Okay, apologies Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY DIXON: Senate Resolution #9 is a resolution to request the appointment of the committee to notify the governor that the legislature is ready to adjourn sine die. Senator Mizell now moves adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Without objection.

SECRETARY DIXON: And the president appoints to notify the governor Senator Talbot, Morris, Pope, Stein and White. Talbot, Morris, Pope, Stein and White.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Senator, why we only have until Sunday night at 6:00? They we're required so. Sergeant at Arms. Thank you.

SECRETARY DIXON: Senate Resolution #10 by Senator Mizell. It's a resolution to request the appointment of a committee to notify the House of Representatives that the Senate is ready to adjourn sine die. Senator Mizell moves adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Without objection.

SECRETARY DIXON: And the president appoints to notify the House of Representatives; Senator Lambert, Senator Reese, Senator Robert Mill, Senator Peterson and Senator Smith. Senators Lambert, Reese, Robert Mills, Peterson and Smith.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Committees, please organize and carry out the duties.

[BACKGROUND NOISE]

[00:15:00]

[BACKGROUND NOISE]

Members of the House, welcome to the Senate. Representative Jordan.

REP. JORDAN: Thank you, sir. Mr. President, the rest of the Senate, we're here to inform you that the House has completed its business and ready to adjourn sine die.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: All right. Thank you. Senator Talbot.

[00:20:00]

SENATOR TALBOT: Thank you, Mr. President and I make a motion that we adjourn sine die.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Woah tiger. We still got people hung up on the governor's office. I thought that was the announcement you we're fixing to make but Senator Morris.

SENATOR MORRIS: Thank you Mr. President. The committee of five has reported to the governor that we have concluded our business and that we are about to adjourn sine die.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you Senator Morris. Senator Reese for announcement.

SENATOR REESE: Thank you Mr. President. We started with five, I'm the only one that made it

back from the House but we did inform the House we are ready to adjourn sine die. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Thank you. All right announcements, Senator White.

SENATOR WHITE: Thank you members. Glad to inform you Tuesday, February 22 at 8:30, [INDISCERNIBLE 00:21:10] may be financed on the budget hearing start the first day Wednesday, the 23rd 9:30 and we'll take the rest of the week off. Well I think we take [INDISCERNIBLE 00:21:19] week off also. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Very good. Any other announcements? Senator Talbot for a motion.

SENATOR TALBOT: Thank you Mr. President. I make a motion that we adjourn sine die.

PRESIDENT PATRICK CORTEZ: Without objection.

[00:21:53]

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I, Anders Nelson, hereby certify that the document "2022-02-18 Senate Full Floor Debate 3" is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true and accurate transcription from English to English.

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Anders Nelson
Project Manager

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