

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Floor Debate January 22, 2025
Rough Draft

ARCH: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the tenth day of the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain for today is Senator Lonowski. Please rise.

LONOWSKI: Dear Lord, as the Legislature convenes, we acknowledge our need for wisdom. The book of James says if anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of you, and you will freely give wisdom if we ask in faith, not doubting. So today, Lord, we ask in faith for your wisdom. Your word says, "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Another translation renders this verse "the fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom." So today, Lord, we humbly approach your throne room of grace and ask to receive your wisdom, the wisdom from above. Lord, you are the Creator and we are the created. Yet you have ordained human government for the good of man. May each of our Senators take heart today of the privilege, the gravity and the responsibility that accompanies their service to the people of Nebraska and of these United States. And may the grace of God and the wisdom of God be with each member of this legislative body. This we pray in your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

ARCH: I recognize Senator Holdcroft for the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOLDCROFT: Please join me in the pledge. 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.

ARCH: Thank you. I call to order the tenth day of the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: There is quorum present. Mr. President.

ARCH: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections this morning, sir.

ARCH: Thank you. Are there any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: There are, Mr. President. Series of amendments and motions to be printed from Senator Holdcroft to LB5-- LB512. Suggestions--

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suggested-- excuse me. A reference report from the Referencing Committee concerning LB383 through LB432, as well as LR20CA and LR21. Notice of committee hearing from the Government Committee. A report from the Rules Committee, reporting the Proposed Rule Change 6 as originally introduced, and an amended version of Proposed Rule Change 12 to the floor for consideration by the Legislature; those will be distributed to the members' desks. That's all I have at this time.

ARCH: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby-- hereby sign LR2, LR3, LR4, LR8 and LR9. Senator Brandt, you are recognized for an announcement.

BRANDT: Thank you, Mr. President. If I could have everybody's attention. We had a former state senator pass away in District 32, and I'm going to read a short obituary. Joe T. Vosoba, retired lawyer, former state senator and Czech leader died January 15, 2025, at the age of 95. Joe practiced law in Wilber and Crete for 30 years as a senior partner in Steinacher and Vosoba, Attorneys. For nearly ten years, he was a vice president, director and a one-third owner of Saline State Bank in Wilber, now First State Bank. Vosoba was elected state senator in 1968 at the age of 30, defeating the incumbent. He was reelected unopposed, and was chairman of the Judiciary Committee his second term. Joe was the last survivor of the four founders of the Nebraska Czechs, which sponsor the Nebraska-- or, excuse me, the Wilber Czech Festival-- and first president of that organization. Vosoba was founder of the Saline County Historical Society, and its first president. He went to Czechoslovakia where he and his wife volunteered to help Czech people convert to democracy. Born on the family farm in Saline County, he graduated from Milligan High School and worked his way through UNL as a full-time student while working full-time for the Lincoln Star as a reporter, feature writer and photographer. He earned his Bachelor of Science and Juris Doctor degrees in just six years. He enlisted during the Korean War in the United States Army as an infantryman, and trained with 101st Airborne Division, the "Screaming Eagles." He was a 60-year member of the Nebraska Bar Association, serving on many councils and boards. And in-- and in 30 years of active practice, never had a complaint raised about his ethics. He is survived by Kathryn, his wife of 68 years, two daughters, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Thank you, Joe, for a life well lived.

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ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB525, introduced by Senator Jacobson at the request of the governor. A bill for an act relating to data privacy; to adopt the Agricultural Data Privacy Act. LB526, introduced by Senator Jacobson at the request of the governor. A bill for an act relating to cryptocurrency mining; to amend Section 70-655, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; to provide powers and duties to public power districts; to allow public power districts to require payments of letters of credit from cryptocurrency mining operations for certain infrastructure upgrades; to provide for an excise tax on cryptocurrency mining; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original section. LB527, introduced by Senator Jacobson. A bill for an act relating to insurance; to amend Sections 44-2702, 44-32,180 and 44-4726, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 77-908, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Medicaid Access and Quality Act; to redefine a term; to provide for a tax on health maintenance organizations; to change requirements for taxes on prepaid limited health service organizations and direct writing premiums; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. LB528, introduced by Senator Jacobson, a bill for an act relating to learning platforms; to amend Section 79-1054, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; to change provisions relating to grants funded from the State Department of Education Improvement Grant Fund; to provide powers and duties to the Department of Economic Development relating to grants for learning platforms; to eliminate obsolete provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB529, introduced by Senator Jacobson. A bill for an act related to the Nebraska Investment Council; to amend section 84-602.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 73-801, 73-806, 73-812, and 73-817, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide certain exemptions for the Nebraska Investment Council under the State Procurement Act and the Taxpayer Transparency Act relating to contracts; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB530, introduced by Senator Kauth. A bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section 28-306, 28-394, 60-682.01, 60-6,213, and 60-6,378, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 60-601 and 60-605, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to motor vehicle homicide, motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child, speed limit violations, and passing a stopped vehicle; to define a

term; to reckless-- to redefine reckless driving under the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to provide a requirement for motor vehicle operators who are approaching or passing vulnerable road users; to provide and change fines and penalties; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB531, introduced by Senator Kauth. A bill for an act relating to building codes; to amend Section 58-701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 72-805, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide an exception to the requirement that buildings constructed with state funds comply with the 2018 International Energy Code Conservation Fund [SIC]; to prohibit the Department of Economic Development from acquiring certain projects receiving funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund comply with the International Energy Conservation Code as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB532, introduced by Senator Kauth. A bill for an act relating to immigration; to amend Section 48-2911, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require employers to use the E-Verify system; to prohibit knowingly hiring an unauthorized alien; to provide for penalties; to provide for discipline against an employer's license; to provide civil penalties; to provide duties for the Commissioner of Labor and the Department of Labor; to define terms; to eliminate a requirement that public employers and public contractors use the E-Verify system; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; to provide severability; to repeal the original section; and to outright repeal Section 4-1114, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB533, introduced by Senator Kauth. A bill for an act relating to the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Licensure and Regulation Act; to amend Sections 44-4601 and 44-4603, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define terms; to provide requirements relating to clinician administered drugs; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections. LB534, introduced by Senator Kauth. A bill for an act relating to claims against the State; to appropriate funds for the payment of certain claims; to provide for the payment of the claims; to authorize agencies to write off certain claims as prescribed; and to declare an emergency.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB535, introduced by Senator Kauth. Bill for an act relating to crimes and offenses; to amend Section 84-941.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-101, 28-115, 28-929, 28-929.01, 28-929.02, 28-930, 28-931, 28-934, 28-1351, 28-1354, and

29-2221, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to prohibit assault on a frontline behavioral health provider or a health care worker; to change and eliminate provisions and penalties relating to offenses involving an assault on an officer, emergency responder or certain employees, or a health care professional; to define and redefine terms; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Section 28-931.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. LB536, introduced by Senator Sorrentino. A bill for an act relating to economic development; to adopt the Manufacturing Modernization Pilot Investment Act; and to declare an emergency. LB537, introduced by Senator Sorrentino. A bill for an act relating to the Workforce Development Program Cash Fund; to amend Section 81-407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide requirements for workforce development grants; to state intent regarding funding; and to repeal the original section. LB538, introduced by Senator Hardin. A bill for an act relating to education; to amend Sections 85-1401 and 85-1411, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require each school board to adopt a policy relating to discrimination and harassment, including antisemitism, as prescribed; to create the position of Title VI coordinator within the State Department of Education and to provide powers and duties; and to require each postsecondary educational institution governing board to adopt a policy relating to discrimination and harassment, including antisemitism, as prescribed; to require the Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education to employ a Title VI coordinator as prescribed and provide powers and duties; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB539, introduced by Senator Hardin. A bill for an act relating to the regulation of handguns; to amend Section 69-2403, 69-2409.01, 69-2410, and 69-2420, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to eliminate provisions relating to handgun purchase requirements; to change provisions relating to criminal history record checks; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 69-2409, 69-2411, 69-2412, 69-2413, 69-2414, 69-2415, 69-2416, 69-2417, 69-2418, 69-2419 and 69-2423, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB540, introduced by Senator Holdcroft. A bill for an act relating to the Nebraska Apiary Act; to amend Sections 81-2,165.1 [SIC-- 81-2,165.01] and 81-2,166, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define a term; to create the Nebraska Apiary Advisory Board and provide objectives and duties for such board; to provide a requirement for the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska to create a full-time educator position as

prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB541, introduced by Senator Holdcroft. A bill for an act relating to elections; to amend Sections 32-306, 32-307, 32-310, 32-311.01, 32-312.05, 32-315, 32-320, 32-321, 32-323, 32-325, 32-806, 32-808, 32-902, 32-938, 32-1118 and 32-1119, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 32-101, 32-103, 32-202, 32-203, 32-206, 32-308, 32-312, 32-914 [SIC-- 941], 32-942, 32-943, 32-947, 32-950.01, 32-960, 32-1002, 32-1041, and 32-1049, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to eliminate online voter registration; to restrict voter registration by mail; to change voter registration provisions; to require watermarks on official ballots; to provide requirements to vote by means of a ballot for early voting; to provide requirements for secure ballot drop boxes; to provide requirements for hand counts; to change provisions relating to voting and counting methods; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Section 32-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 32-304 and 32-320.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. LB542, introduced by Senator Dover. Bill for an act relating to roads; to amend Sections 14-2113 and 39-1304.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; to change provisions relating to utility facilities; to harmonize provisions; to eliminate obsolete provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB543, introduced by Senator Dover. A bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section 60-3,157, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 60-392, 60-3,100, 60-3,101 and 60-3,102, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for the delivery of license plates and authorize fees; to change provisions relating to fees collected for license plates; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB544, introduced by Senator Dover. A bill for an act relating to the Employment Security Law; to amend Section 48-601, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to disqualify certain individuals from receiving benefits as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB545, introduced by Senator Rountree. Bill for an act relating to menstrual products; to provide immunity from liability for injury or death resulting from the use of donated menstrual products as prescribed; and to define terms. LB546, introduced by Senator Rountree. A bill for an act relating to emergencies; to amend Section 81-829.40, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to emergency proclamations made by the Governor; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency. LB547, introduced by Senator

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Rountree. Bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Sections 60-3,185, 77-202.23, and 77-202.24, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change a motor vehicle tax exemption and a property tax exemption relating to certain disabled veterans; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original provisions. LB548, introduced by Senator Lippincott. A bill for an act relating to natural gas systems; to provide for municipalities to contract with industrial users of natural gas; and to provide requirements for such contracts. LB549, introduced by Senator Lippincott. A bill for an act relating to education; to amend Sections 79-804, 79-805, and 79-814.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to allow a school board to employ a chaplain, including in a volunteer capacity, to perform various duties at a school without a certificate issued by the Commissioner of Education as prescribed; to provide powers and duties to the State Board of Education; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB550, introduced by Senator Lippincott. A bill for an act relating to education; to require school districts to adopt a policy that excuses students from attending a released time course for religious instruction as prescribed; to authorize a civil action for violations; and to declare an emergency. LB551, introduced by Senator Lippincott. A bill for an act relating to postsecondary education; to amend Sections 85-106, 85-304, 85-1511, and 85-1530, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to prohibit the practice of academic tenure at postsecondary education institutions governed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, or a community college board of governors for any community college area established by Section 85-1504 as prescribed; to provide powers and duties to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, and any community college board of governors; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB552, introduced by Senator Lippincott. Bill for an act relating to postsecondary education; to define terms and to prohibit public sec-- postsecondary educational institutions from having a diversity, equity and inclusion office and taking certain actions related to diversity, equity and inclusion. LB553, introduced by Senator Riepe. Bill for an act relating to the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act; to amend Sections 71-5662, 71-5663,

71-5665, and 71-5668, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for student loans to students in dietitian nutritionist practice programs and loan repayments for dietitian nutritionists; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB554, introduced by Senator Riepe. Bill for an act relating to public health and welfare; to amend Sections 71-6207, 71-6207.02, 71-6219.01, 70--71-6223.02, 71-6224, 71-6225, and 71-6226, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 71-6227, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to create the Nebraska Health Professions Commission; to change powers and duties; to define and redefine terms; to eliminate technical committees; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB555, introduced by Senator Riepe. Bill for an act relating to the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act; to amend Sections 60 [SIC] 38-1401, 38-1402, and 38-1413, and 38-1424, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for assistant funeral directors; to provide for credentialing, scope of practice, collaborative agreements, restrictions on practice and disciplinary actions; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. LB556, introduced by Senator Riepe and Wordekemper at the request of the Governor. Bill for an act relating to juvenile justice; to amend Sections 29-1816, 43-245, 43-246.01, 43-250, 43-251.01, 43-253, and 43-260.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to jurisdiction of adult and juvenile courts; to define detention under the Nebraska Juvenile Code; to change provisions relating to detention and a hearing under the code; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB557, introduced by Senator Armendariz. A bill for an act relating to education; to amend Sections 79-233, 79-234, 79-235, 79-237, 79-238, 79-239, 79-240, 79-241, 79-2,127, 79- 2,134, 79-611, 79-769, 79-1009, 79-10,143, 79-2104, 79-2118, and 79-2120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide, change, and eliminate definitions; to change provisions relating to the enrollment option program, student fees, student transportation, focus schools, focus programs, and magnet schools, net option funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act, the learning community coordinating council, diversity plans for each learning community, and certification of a student qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches; to provide for funding to students denied option enrollment as prescribed; to eliminate provisions relating to open enrollment option students and diversity plans; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal

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Section 79-235.01 and 79-2110, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB558, introduced by Senator von Gillern. A bill for an act relating to transportation infrastructure; to create the Transportation Infrastructure Review Task Force; and to provide duties. LB559, introduced by Senator Bosn. A bill for an act relating to crimes and offenses; to amend Sections 28-618, 28-1601, and 28-1602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 28-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for offenses relating to skimmer devices and continuing criminal enterprises involved in financial offenses; to provide penalties; to define terms; to provide for forfeiture; to clarify and harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB560, introduced by Senator Dungan. A bill for an act relating to tourism; to amend Section 81-3725, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to innovative tourism grants; and to repeal the original section. LB561, introduced by Senator Brandt. A bill for an act relating to the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to amend Section 60-6,298, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change maximum weight limits for vehicles carrying raw milk as prescribed; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency. LB562, introduced by Senator Brandt. A bill for an act relating to game and parks; to amend Section 37-440, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska and Sections 37-438, 37-451, 37-455 and 37-1214, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change fees; to change provisions relating to the issuing of certain permits; and to repeal the original sections. LB563, introduced by Senator Brandt. Bill for an act relating to the Motor Vehicle Registration Act; to amend Sections 60-301, 60-302, 60-3,101 and Section 60-3,104, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define a term; to provide for permanent trailer license plates for commercial fertilizer trailers; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal original sections. LB564, introduced by Senator Brandt. Bill for an act relating to the School District Property Tax Relief Act; to amend Sections 77-7304 and 77-7305, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to fund transfers to the School District Property Tax Relief Credit Fund and the amount of tax relief granted; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. LB565, introduced by Senator Quick. A bill for an act relating to the Administrative Procedure Act; to amend Section 84-901.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide and change requirements for guidance documents; to provide an operative date; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency. LB566, introduced by Senator Quick. A bill for

an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-2715.07, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to eliminate a sunset date relating to an income tax credit for the purchase of certain residential property as prescribed; and to repeal the original section. LB567, introduced by Senator Quick. Bill for an act relating to schools; to require the State Board of Education to adopt a model policy relating to community engagement and authorize school districts to adopt a policy consistent with the model policy. LB568, introduced by Senator Fredrickson. A bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend Sections 37-327.04, 60-3,104.1 [SIC-- 60-3,104.01], 60-3,104.02, 60-3,129, 60-3,254. 60-495, 80-415, 80-416, 80-417, 81-2517, 82-139, and 82-334, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 37-112, 37-811, 60-301, 60-393, 60-395, 60-396, 60-3,104, 60-3,130.04 and 60-3,253, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to license plates and provide for the issuance of Arbor Day plates; to create the Home of Arbor Day Plate Cash Fund and provide for grants from such fund; to eliminate a fund; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to eliminate provisions relating to certain license plates; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to repeal outright Sections 60-3,127, Section 60-3230-- 3,223, 60-3,224, 60-3,225, 60-3,227, 60-3,230, Section 60-3,231, Section 32-- 60-3,234, Section 33-- 3,235 [SIC-- 60-3,235], Section (60-)3,238, 60-3,239, 60-3,240, 60-3,242, 60-3,244, 60-3,246, Section 60-3,248, Section 60-3,250, 60-3,252, Section, Section 60-3,255, 60-3,256, 60-3,257, and 60-3,258, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and 60-3,128, 60-3,226, 60-3,232, 60-3,233, 60-3,237, 60-3,241, 60-3,243, 60-3,245, 60-327 [SIC-- 60-3,247], 60-3,249, 60-3,251, 60-3,259, and 60-3,260, Reissue Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. LB569, introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee. A bill for an act relating to the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act; to amend Section 38-1216, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change requirements for the Board of Emergency Medical Services; and to repeal the original section. LB570, introduced by Senator John Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to nursing scholarships; to provide powers and duties to the Department of Health and Human Services; and to state intent regarding appropriations. LB571, introduced by Senator John Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to public power districts; to require cost-of-living adjustments for any public power district that operates a defined benefit plan. LB572, introduced by Senator Hughes and Lonowski. A bill for an act relating to the Tax Equity and Educational

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Opportunity Support Act; to amend Section 79-1028.01 and 79-3404, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to authorize a school district to exceed its budget authority for the General Fund budget of expenditures for stipends paid to a student, teacher or intern as prescribed; to change the applicability of the School District Property Tax Limitation Act; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB573, introduced by Senator Guereca. A bill for an act relating to meat and poultry workers; to adopt the Meat and Poultry Workers and Contractors Protection Act. LB574, introduced by Senator Rountree. Bill for an act relating to firefighters; to define terms; to provide rights; and to provide requirements for investigations. LB575, introduced by Senator Hallstrom. A bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-1633 and 77-3442, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the Property Tax Request Act and property tax levy limits; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. LB576, introduced by Senator Dorn. A bill for an act relating to telecommunications; to amend Sections 86-457, 86-458, and 86-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions of the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act relating to surcharges and public hearings; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB577, introduced by Senator Dorn. Bill for an act relating to the Department of Health and Human Services; to amend Section 71-436.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 38-2847, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change licensure requirements for remote dispensing pharmacies; to change verification requirements for pharmacists as prescribed; and to repeal the original sections. LB578, introduced by Senator Machaela Cavanaugh and McKinney. A bill for an act relating to labor; to amend Sections 29-2414, 29-2415, 29-2708, 33-157, 27-208 [SIC-- 47-208], 48-1202, 81-1835, 83-183, 83-183.01, 83-184, 83-184.01, 83-187, 83-1,135 and 83-917, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 73-814, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to require city and county jails and the Department of Correctional Services to pay inmates the minimum wage for work by such inmates; to provide for applicability of federal workplace safety laws; to provide that such employees and inmates are subject to the Wage and Hour Act; to define and redefine terms; to provide for bank accounts for inmates; to change and eliminate provisions relating to the distribution of wages earned by inmates; to provide duties for the Jail Standards Board and the department; to require payment of the

minimum wage to state and political subdivision employees; to eliminate provisions relating to the establishment of industries and farms by the Department of Correctional Services; to eliminate obsolete and inconsistent provisions relating to inmates of jails; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 47-403, 47-404, 47-406, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB579, introduced by Senator Machaela Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to public records; to amend Section 84-712 and 84-712.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to prohibit charging a fee for official requests for public records by members of the Legislature and establish a deadline for fulfilling such requests; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB580, introduced by Senator Machaela Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to the Department of Energy--Environment and Energy; and to declare an emergency. Also, Mr. President, I have notices of committee hearings by the Judiciary Committee and the Natural Resources Committee.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. New Bills. LB581, introduced by Senator Machaela Cavanaugh. It's a bill for an act relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to the Department of Health Human Services. LB582, introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to the Mechanical Amusement Device Tax Act; to amend Section 81-3729, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 77-3012, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change the amount of tax imposed on cash devices and how such collected tax are remitted; to change the revenue submitted to the Nebraska Tourism Commission Promotional Cash Fund; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original section. LB583, introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 43-2622, 43-2624, 76-901, 76-903, 77-1327, 81-12,114, 81-12,243 and 81-3140, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 55-901 and 58-703, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the rate and distribution-- disbursement of the document-- documentary stamp tax, the Child Care Grant Fund, child care grants, the Military Installation Development and Support Fund, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Innovation Hub Cash Fund, Economic Recovery Contingency Fund, and the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative

date; and to repeal the original section. LB584, introduced by Senator Spivey. A bill for an act relating to crimes and offenses; to amend Section 28-105.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 29-2204, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change penalties for certain felonies committed by persons under 18 years of age; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB585, introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program; to amend Section 43-2404.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for distribution of state aids to community-based organizations; and to repeal the original section. LB586, introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to the Election Act; to amend Section 32-944, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; to provide a duty to ensure the voting rights of individuals who are unable to vote in person or who are housed in certain facilities; to require a plan; to provide a penalty; and to repeal the original section. LB587, introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to the Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act; to amend Section 76-1425 and 76-1427, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change deadlines for termination of a rental agreement due to noncompliance by the landlord; to provide for and change tenant remedies relating to landlord's failure to maintain a dwelling unit or essential service; and to repeal the original section. LB588, introduced by Senator Conrad. It's a bill for an act relating to public assistance; to amend Section 43-512, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change requirements for determination of the maximum level of monthly assistance; and to repeal the original section. LB589, issued by Senator Conrad. It's a bill for an act relating to schools; to amend Section 79-1142, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to reimbursement for special education programs and support services and require school districts to provide special education staff with professional leave as prescribed; and to repeal the original section. LB590, introduced by Senator Moser. It's a bill for an act relating to wildlife management; to amend Section 37-335, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for a mitigation bank or an in-lieu fee program relating to the incidental taking of threatened or endangered species; to provide for payment of a sum in lieu of ad valorem taxes lost by the county as prescribed; to provide duties for the Department of Transportation; and to repeal the original section. LB591, introduced by Senator Ballard. It's a bill for an act relating to the Nebraska

Installment Loan Act; to amend Section 45-1004, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 45-1003 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to when license are required; to provide powers to certain licensees relating to affiliates; to define terms; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section. LB592, introduced by Senator Ballard. It's a bill for an act relating to the achieving a better life experience program; to amend Section 77-1407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to exempt accounts from levy execution, judgment, garnishments and other judicial enforcement as prescribed; to repeal the original section. LB593, introduced by Senator Moser. It's a bill for an act relating to fuels; to amend Section 66-1226, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to update references relating to automotive spark ignition engine fuels; and repeal the original section. LB594, introduced by Senator Prokop. It's a bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend Section 60-6,179.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change and eliminate provisions relating to use of handheld wireless communication devices while operating a motor vehicle; and to repeal the original section. LB595, introduced by Senator Prokop. It's a bill for an act relating to research; to create a fund; to declare an emergency. LB596, introduced by Senator Sanders. It's a bill for an act relating to legal notices; to amend Section 25-2228, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to how legal notices are published; and to repeal the original section. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for items.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Some items quickly. Notice of committee hearing from the Revenue Committee, as well as the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. Additionally, some new bills. LB597, introduced by Senator DeBoer. It's a bill for an act relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunity Support Act; to amend Section 79-1006, 79-1015.01, 79-1016, 79-1022, 79-1022.02, 79-1023, 79-1027, and 79-1031.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to foundation aid, local effort rate yield; adjusted valuation of property, and certain certification dates; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original section; to declare an emergency. LB598, introduced by Senator DeBoer. It's a bill for an act relating to education; to amend Section 79-1007.15, 79-1021, 79-1022, 79-1022.02, 79-1023, 79-1027,

79-1031.01, and 79-1142, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide funding to school districts to cover extraordinary increases in limited English proficiency student expenditures; to change provisions relating to the elementary site allowance and certification dates under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act; to change eligible uses of the Education Future Fund; to change provisions relating to reimbursement for special education programs and support services and provide additional funding to school districts for costs attributed to students with a 504 plan; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original section; and declare an emergency. LB599, introduced by Senator DeBoer is a bill for an act relating to schools; to require the State Board of Education to adopt a policy relating to cybersecurity as prescribed. LB600, introduced by Senator DeBoer. It's a bill for an act relating to the-- to motor vehicles; to amend Section 60-696, 60-6,186, 6378 [SIC-- 60-6,378] and 60-3203, Reissued Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 60-601, 60-605, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define terms, provide immunity from damage resulting from removal of certain vehicles and other objects from highways, change provisions relating to the maximum lawful speed limit, provide for enforcement of a maximum lawful speed limit for school crossing zones and highway work zones by means of speed control enforcement system, provide duties for drivers who are approaching stopped motor vehicles, and provide for removal of certain motor vehicles or other objects from highways under the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to change when an automatic license plate reader system may be used under the automatic License Plate Reader Privacy Act; to provide powers and duties for the Department of Transportation; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; and to repeal the original section. LB601, introduced by Senator DeBoer. It's a bill for an act relating to criminal procedure; to amend Section 29-2101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to clarify provisions; and repeal the original section. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

DeKAY: Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB602, introduced by Senator Juarez. A bill for an act relating to data privacy; to amend Section 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to adopt the Data Elimination and Limiting Extensive Tracking and Exchange Act; to provide a deceptive trade practice; and to repeal the original section. LB603, introduced by

Senator Ballard. A bill for an act relating to aging services; to amend Sections 81-2234 and 81-2235, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to care management units; and to repeal the original section. LB604, introduced by Senators Storm, DeKay, Lonowski, and-- a bill for an act relating to initiative and referendum measures; to amend Sections 32-1405 and 32-1412, Reissue Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024 [SIC]; to provide duties; to change provisions relating to suits brought regarding initiative and referendum petitions; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB605, introduced by Senator Raybould. A bill for an act relating to schools; to define terms; to require each school board to adopt a policy relating to student participation as a transgender student in extracurricular activities sponsored by such school or an athletics or activities association to which school is a member as prescribed; to state intent. LB606, introduced by Senator Holdcroft. A bill for an act relating to correctional services; to amend Sections 47-624, 47-624.01, 47-627, 47-629, 47-903, 47-908, 47-919, 81-1401, 83-170, 83-171, 83-171.01, 83-173, 83-174.03, 83-174.04, 83-174.05, 83-192, 83-1,100, 83-1,100.02, 83-1,103, 83-1,103.1 [SIC-- 83-1,103.01], 83-103 [SIC-- 83-1,103], 83-1,103.2 [SIC-- 83-1,103.02], 83-1,103.03 and 83-1,103.4 [SIC-- 83-1,103.04], 83-1,104, 83-1,107, 83-1,107.1 [SIC-- 83-1,107.01], 83-1,107.02, 83-1,109, 83-1,118, 83-1,119, 83-1,121.02 [SIC-- 83-1,122.02], 83-1,125, 83-1,125.01, and 83-962, Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-322, 29-2246, 29-2252, 29-2261, 29-2935, 29-4019, 47-1102, 47-1103, 47-1104, 47-1105, 47-1106, 47-1107, 47-1108, 47-1109, 47-1110, 47-1111, 47-1113, 47-1114, 47-1115, 47-1116, and 47-1117, 47-1119, 71-961, 71-3426, and 71-3430, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to eliminate the Division of Parole and Supervision and the position of Director and Super-- of Supervision and Services; to provide powers and duties for the Department of Correctional Services and the Director of Correctional Services; to change provisions relating to the correctional system overcrowding emergencies; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 83-1,101, 83-1,102, Revised Statutes-- Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB607, introduced by Senator Bostar. A bill for an act relating to solid waste; to amend Sections 13-2001, 13-2003, 13-2010, 13-2034, 13-2042, 81-1502 and 81-15,160, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to adopt the Environmental Stewardship of Batteries Act, the Extended Producer Responsibility Data Collection

Act, and the Minimum Recycled Content Act; to define and redefine terms and change provisions relating to regulatory authority over manufacturing facilities and disposal fees under the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act; to define, redefine and alphabetize terms under the Environmental Protection Act; to change provisions relating to the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections. LB608, introduced by Senator Bostar. Bill for an act relating to first responders; to amend Sections 85-2601, 85-2602, 85-2603, 85-2603.01, and 85-2605, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 44-314, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change the definition of firefighter for purposes of certain insurance protections; to include correctional officers, youth detention officers and children to first responders within the First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act; to require reimbursement by the State; to provide duties for the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education; to define and redefine terms; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB609, introduced by Senator Bostar. A bill for an act relating to fraud; to amend Sections 28-512, 28-602, 28-603, 28-639, 28-1111, 28-1463.06, 28-1601, and 28-1602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-416 and 28-813.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Controllable Electronic Record Fraud Prevention Act; to require certain notice to purchasers of gift certificates or gift cards; to define a term; to provide for forfeiture for conviction for certain offenses involving theft by deception, forgery and identity theft; to provide for forfeiture of controllable electronic records; to clarify and harmonize provisions; to provide severability; and to repeal the original sections. LB610, introduced by Senator Bostar. A bill for an act relating to the Medical Assistance Act; to amend Section 68-982, 68-9-- 895 [SIC-- 68-985], 68-986, and 68-987 and 68-988, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to supplemental reimbursement for ground emergency medical transport; to change powers and duties for the Department of Health and Human Services as prescribed; to repeal the original sections. LB611, introduced by the Urban Affairs Committee. A bill for an act relating to buildings; to amend sections 81-1608, 81-1611, and 81-1614, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 71-6403, 71-6406, 72-804, 72-805, and 72-806, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt updates to building and energy codes; and to repeal the original sections. LB612, introduced by Senator Andersen and Senator Clouse. A

bill for an act relating to county courts; to amend Section 24-514, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require the state to pay 50% of the operational costs of county courts; and to repeal the original section. LB613, introduced by Senator Andersen, Clouse, and Sorrentino. A bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Sections 77-2711, 77-27,144 and 77-5725, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the disclosure of tax information to municipalities; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB614, introduced by Senator Andersen. A bill for an act relating to cities and villages; to amend Sections 16-901 and 17-1001, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to restate exemptions for farm buildings and structures within the extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction; and to repeal the original sections. LB615, introduced by Senator John Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to elections; to amend Section 49-1401, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define terms; to prohibit certain distributions of deepfakes and synthetic media; to provide for exceptions and injunctive or equitable relief; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; and to repeal the original section. LB616, introduced by Senator John Cavanaugh. A bill for an act relating to traffic violations; to amend Sections 29-3606, 60-4,182, and 60-3203, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 60-392 and 60-601, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for the enforcement of red light violations using automatic license plate reader systems as prescribed; to define terms; to provide for a waiver of a fee for a driver safety training program; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB618, introduced by Senators Kauth, Hansen, Ibach, McKeon, and Sorrentino. A bill for an act relating to claims against the state; to disapprove certain claims. LB619, introduced by Senator Ballard. Bill for an act relating to transportation; to provide for cities of the primary class and certain counties to receive grants relating to certain highways; to state legislative intent; and declare an emergency. LB620, introduced by Senator Guereca. A bill for an act relating to real property; to adopt the Neighborhood Revitalization Act; and to provide an operative date. That's all I have, Mr. President.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for an item.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Proposed rule change from Senator Kauth to amend the permanent rules. Rule 6, Section 9 and Rule 7, Section 10; that will be filed in the Journal and available on the

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members' desks. Additionally-- that's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

ARCH: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. You may proceed to the next item on the agenda.

CLERK: Mr. President, next item on the agenda. Senator Lippincott would move to adopt the Permanent Rules of the Legislature. To that end, there is a rule change to the permanent rules from the Rules Committee: Rule Change 6, changing Rule 3, Section 4.

ARCH: Senator Lippincott, you are recognized to open on the motion.

LIPPINCOTT: Thank you, sir, and good morning. First, I just want to thank the Rules Committee for their work and their help on this process. Rules truly is a fast-moving machine, and I am very glad to have each person on the committee guiding me and assisting. I'm very blessed to have their experience and their knowledge, and I look forward to having many conversations about how we can make our rules more clear and user-friendly in the interim. Yesterday, the Rules Committee voted out two rule changes, and I trust that everyone has had a chance to look at those overnight. These are rules that the whole committee agreed on unanimously, and provide for expediency and transparency in our processes. First is Senator Hansen's, dealing with the appointment process, and second is Senator Ibach, dealing with the timeline of publishing a bill's statement of intent. I will yield to each of them time to explain more in-depth about how these rules impact our processes. Again, these passed out of committee unanimously. Senator Ben Hansen.

ARCH: Senator Hansen--

HANSEN: Yes, thank you very--

ARCH: --you have 9 minute, 30.

HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All right. So, mine has to do with Rule Change number 6 in the name of efficiency and the process that we have on the floor. I'm going to give a little bit of a historical context about it quickly, and then also what the rule change is. The Nebraska State Constitution states that it is a responsibility of the governor to appoint individuals to fill offices for agency heads, code and non-code agency boards that either the constitution or law has

established. The Legislature is also expected to join in on the process by using its authority to approve the gubernatorial appointments with a majority vote of the body. By involving the legislative process, we extend an opportunity for each appointee to have a hearing that is then reviewed by its appropriate committee. These committees are required to file a report with the Clerk on each appointment, which is then approved or rejected by the vote of the Legislature as a whole. In 1937, during the first session of the Unicameral, the Legislature approved a total of eight gubernatorial appointments. Fast forward to the year 1990, the Legislature had created various state functions since 1937, and the number of approved appointments increased to 64 offices that were filled. The Legislature had a lot to accomplish on the floor, and an assortment of bills to debate, but they also had 64 appointees to discuss. And now, 35 years later, the number of appointees has only escalated since then. Last year, the Legislature had sent 106 gubernatorial appointments for confirmation, and this year we are eligible to make over 396 appointments; we are no longer dealing with just a few gubernatorial appointments. With this in mind, I propose we implement the changes found in Rule Change number 6. I put together an idea that validates the value of the legislative approval process while creating a system that is effective, time-efficient, and accommodates the influx of gubernatorial appointments. In this rule change, all gubernatorial appointments would continue to have individual hearings. The appoint--appropriate committee would still write a report for the body; appointments of agency or department heads would still continue to be considered individually. But this is where the rule change takes place: all other appointments that are not agency or department heads and who have advanced from the committee would be presented in a combined report. Instead of requiring the Legislature to vote on each appointment separately, each committee would submit one report that allows the legislator-- the Legislature to approve the appointments with one vote. It would be similar to the consent calendar. The overall consensus is that the subjects are non-controversial and without opposition; because of this, the body agrees to vote on them collectively. In the same way, Rule Change number 6 also provides an option for a senator to request an individual nomination to be removed from the report with a written request. I want to be sensitive to possible concerns, so if five or more signatures are gathered, the Speaker will then remove the specific appointment from the report to be voted on separately. With the amount of gubernatorial appointments

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we now have assigned to the Legislature, it is time for our rules to be amended. I believe this rule change values our time, incorporates a method we are familiar with, and trusts the work of the committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ARCH: Senators, our system right now is, is that you see it displayed for the queue is tied to legislative bills, so I will announce who, who is in the queue. And there is Senator Conrad, Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, Senator DeBoer, Senator Dorn. Senator Conrad, you are recognized to speak.

CONRAD: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. I want to thank my friend Senator Lippincott, who did a really great job as his first year as chair of the Rules Committee, and thank our colleagues who put in a lot of extra hours in these early days of session serving on the Rules Committee. Since this process is a bit different than our overall deliberation in regards to legislative bills and legislative resolutions, I think this is important-- particularly as we welcome our new members-- to understand how this process works. So typically, we would have available to us when something emanates from a jurisdictional committee to the floor, something called a committee statement, which details and delineates proponents, opponents, any committee amendment changes, and helps each member who wasn't on that jurisdictional committee kind of get up to speed for floor debate, as one of many materials they can review. That is not available when we-- when we engage in deliberations on rules changes. So I will be asking some of our friends on the Rules Committee later today to help to clearly provide a record of what exactly these rule changes are trying to address, why, how, if a rule change is, in fact necessary; who came in support of these measures? Who came in as opponents to these measures? And what was the committee's deliberation in that regard? First off, though, I do want to note that I am generally supportive and open-minded to the measure that Senator Hansen has put forward and that enjoys the broad support of our Rules Committee in the name of government efficiency and legislative efficiency, which I think are noble and important goals that we can always find a lot of agreement on. However, I do want to be clear that when we are striving for legislative and governmental efficiency, we cannot and should not trump our constitutional obligations to provide checks and balances on the executive branch, which is part and parcel with the consideration of gubernatorial nominees, including for lesser offices beyond just agency and department heads. And that is an important part of the

process. I do want to note that I think there may be some potential discrepancy in terms of how the rule itself is written. If you look at the first two sentences that are provided, it is permissive. This makes the entirety of the goal of this rule permissive to the individual committee chair rather than mandatory. But then, it has later in the rule-- in remaining sentences and paragraphs-- mandatory directions, particularly as to scheduling for the Speaker. So it goes without saying, if a committee chair-- under the rule as proposed and if adopted-- decided not to utilize this approach, they could continue to do individualized nominations and appointments, as is our present practice. Additionally, since there is a mechanism akin to how we handle our consent calendar that does allow five Senators to raise concerns for expedited review of measures that may otherwise be appropriate for the consent calendar. That can happen in this instance. So, if five members were to raise questions about any individual or all individuals in the collective committee report on nominations, this will save nothing in terms of overall legislative efficiency and/or time. The final piece that I want to lift up-- and Senator Hansen is right to note there has been an exponential growth in terms of overall appointments that need to be made. But I wonder if we need to make this change at this juncture, as we are working hand-in-glove with the governor's office to eliminate antiquated boards and commissions and to effectuate mergers between a variety of different state agencies. These will reduce significantly the amount of nominations that come through our committees and to this floor. Thank you, Mr. President.

ARCH: Senator DeBoer, you are recognized to speak.

DeBOER: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. Well, I wanted to take a moment since-- first of all, to all the new senators, welcome to your first real debate. So, yay. To kind of go over how we debate the rules, there's been some discussion. So I just wanted to make sure we all know what the rules are for debating the rules. So basically, the motion that Senator Lippincott has here to adopt the Permanent Rules is a main motion, so everything in your Rule Book that applies to main motions would apply to this main motion. In terms of priority motions, unlike bills, a bracket and an IPP are not appropriate at this time; a recommit to committee could be. Members can each speak three times for up to five minutes. You'll notice the time remaining thing on the board now will show a yellow light when you are down to one minute; I think we're still getting audible

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one-minutes, which I think we're going to have to do for the remainder of my time here, because I'm never going to remember to look at the board. But, there it is. Unlike bills, with-- and this is sort of the key distinction with rules debate, there's only one round of debate. So there's only one time we will vote on each proposed rule change, and therefore we do not have the same kind of structure where we have eight hours or whatever to debate on it, and then four hours, and then two hours. So this is the only time you'll get to vote on this, so we're hoping that, you know, everybody is able to look through and understand what the rules are and can ask all their questions now. So that is sort of the big difference between rules debate and any other bill or LRCA debate. So, that's kind of my tutorial for everyone on how rules debate goes, so if there are any other questions, I'm sure Senator Lippincott or myself would be happy to answer them. Thank you, Mr. President.

ARCH: Senator Dorn, you are recognized to speak.

DORN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I do want to thank the Rules Committee for the work they put in to bring these to the floor. I guess-- looking for somebody, maybe Senator Ben Hansen, since it's his rule proposal, to have some questions on this a little bit. Would Senator Hansen yield to a question?

ARCH: Senator Hansen, will you yield?

HANSEN: Yes.

DORN: One of them was that, I call it, the timeline. And I see it's up to the Speaker in the bill, but this will most likely be, I call it, later in the session when all the committees have had an opportunity to submit the-- these to the Speaker?

HANSEN: Yeah, it's up to the purview of the chair to determine when they want to do this. They can actually do it two times, three times, in blocks; they can wait to the very end of the session, do all of them at one time, which is where the time-- kind of management-- or the time savings or efficiency would come in. They can do it how we did it before. This just gives them a tool, the opportunity to do this where they didn't have that before.

DORN: My other question is-- and how, how does the vote have to be coming out of committee? Does this have to be a unanimous vote, or is

this just an affirmative 4-3 or whatever vote? That doesn't-- when I read it, it-- at least it's not in there. Or is that up to the discretion of the committee chair?

HANSEN: I'm almost positive it's unanimous. Oh, where is it at in the-- I-- let me get back to here, off the mic. I want to read it and kind of point it out to you on the mic, but I'm pretty sure it's unanimous.

DORN: You bet. Thank you. That, that's all I had. Thank you. I'll yield my-- I'll yield my time.

ARCH: Senator McKinney, you're recognized to speak.

McKINNEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Dorn is kind of on what I'm on, as far as-- are these going to be unanimous votes or split votes? Because I think that's-- we have to have that conversation, because if we're going to not allow these committee reports to be divided, they should be unanimous votes from the committee. That means that the full committee should be voting for that report and for those appointments. But if it's divided, then we should be able to divide these reports because, for example, since I've been here, there's been some pretty controversial appointments. And if we can't divide these committee reports, that is a big problem. So I think that needs to be clarified, if-- if the-- if it's going to be a collective vote, then it should be a unanimous vote of the committee. And if it's-- and this is not clear, because it doesn't say it. So I think that needs to be figured out, because if we can't divide these committee reports, then-- and it's not clear whether or not that vote was unanimous or not, we need to figure that out. Because what if it was a 4-3 vote or a 5-3 vote, and three members of that committee stands up and says, "We all voted no, and this is why." And it creates a bunch of controversy on the floor. And then, we can't divide or pull that person out. That is an issue. So, thank you.

ARCH: Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, you're recognized to speak.

M. CAVANAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President. Would Senator Ben Hansen yield to a question?

ARCH: Senator Hansen, will you yield?

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HANSEN: Yes. I'm used to looking this way when I talk to you, so this is throwing me off now.

M. CAVANAUGH: I know, I know. I'm getting a little thrown off too, because Senator Dorn's now behind you, so. Yes. Well, good morning. Thank you for yielding to a question. So, the current way that these reports happen-- so, let's, let's go back to 2024, where you were the chair of HHS and I was on HHS. We would have a slew of gubernatorial appointments come in and we as a committee could vote to send them out in a, in a group, correct?

HANSEN: Yes. According to the committee that they were-- like, you know, usually we did the Barber Board, and we did this board and that board. This would allow them to put all of them in one report and kind of go through them without, like, sitting here reading a bio with each one. The chair can still do that, but they can say these are the three individuals for the Barber Board; these are two people to this board, these are four people to this board, and then we all vote on it as a-- as a body.

M. CAVANAUGH: OK. So that helps-- that clarifies one point. But then the-- if it gets to the floor and people on the floor want to have it broken out, or they want to take out a specific one that they want to debate individually, it takes five signatures?

HANSEN: Yes. Yeah. And this is, I think, what Senator McKinney was asking.

M. CAVANAUGH: And what is the timeline on that?

HANSEN: It'd be up to the speaker then to put those on the floor as an individual, then.

M. CAVANAUGH: So, then, when those-- but when something-- when a report is reported out, how long then will the rest of the body have to put together a five signature letter asking for somebody to be pulled out?

HANSEN: I'm assuming-- again, that's a little bit of a procedural question, but I'm assuming as we're discussing that on the floor or even before the floor, you get your five signatures ahead of time, present it to the, to the Clerk's office or the Clerk, and then-- just like we would-- we're mimicking this after another pros-- rule that we

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have in the Legislature, we have to get five signatures, and you might know--

M. CAVANAUGH: For the consent calendar.

HANSEN: That's it.

M. CAVANAUGH: Yes.

HANSEN: So we're mimicking this after the consent calendar. So it's the same kind of procedures that we would follow with that.

M. CAVANAUGH: And the consent calendar previously was three signatures, and we changed it to five signatures, I believe, last rules change, last biennium. But part of that is that you're actually removing a bill from the consent calendar, which is a little bit more serious than wanting to debate somebody individually. So I guess I kind of would push back on the number for five. But my, my other question is-- so, when rules debate happens, we get the agenda and it'll say-- like, it'll just have the Journal number of, of the-- or, not rules debate. Sorry, the gubernatorial appointment. So it'll just have the Journal number on the agenda; it doesn't actually list out who everybody is. And so, it's, it's going to take, like, some very fast work for this body to know who we're actually even voting on to begin with, and whether or not we want to vote on them as individuals. And that process can move very quickly. And I guess that's my concern, is moving through the appointment process too quickly on the floor. And to Senator McKinney's point, if it's not unanimous out of committee, it probably doesn't rise to the level of being put into a group report.

HANSEN: OK. So I got some clarification on that. So when we say in the rule change, when it says identical, that means they just had to be approved by the committee. So, not so much unanimous; one can come out five-- you know, as long as the committee moves it forward and approves of it as a committee.

M. CAVANAUGH: Right.

HANSEN: The whole purpose of this is we're putting more trust in the committee process so we can be more efficient on the floor. And so, you know, that's-- that was kind of the, the genesis of where this kind of came from. And so-- but we're still also leaving an avenue for

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the body to pull one out individually if, if they so choose. I get the point where it might be a little bit-- you know, your concern about maybe moving too quickly, which is sort of the point to kind of make it efficient. But if you remember, any time in the six years we've been here, any time we've had a gubernatorial appointment where there was a concern about it, we knew about it way before ahead of time, we had our arguments formatted. And it'd be the same thing with this. We would just make sure we get our five signatures, we can pull it out and discuss it separately.

M. CAVANAUGH: Typically, we would know if there was a concern, but there have been times where it's come to the floor where then, concerns have been risen. And part of this goes to a rules change that I actually withdrew because I had a bill for it, which is that we don't have a, a set process for vetting gubernatorial appointments-- like background checks to see if they've been, you know, convicted of crimes. We don't do any of that. And so it's up to us individually, as senators, to even do just like a basic Google search on people. And so I get, like-- until we have an established process for vetting our--.

ARCH: Time, Senator.

M. CAVANAUGH: --gubernatorial appointments. Oh. Thank you. Thank you, Senator Hansen.

ARCH: Senator Hunt, you are recognized to speak.

HUNT: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. Good morning, Nebraskans. I, I want to rise to speak kind of generally and share what I would call, I guess, a cautionary observation from these first ten days of this session. And I've been here as long as anybody. And in the era of term limits, of course, that doesn't mean much because, you know, it's really true that you start to find your way around, and you start to realize how to use the process to, to reach, you know-- as a means to the ends that you're trying to accomplish, and then you're out of here. So besides Senator Conrad, the senior member of this Legislature, I mean, I know as much as anybody in here and have the same experience as the most senior members here. And what I would caution about is this pattern and practice I've seen in our processes-- whether that's in the Committee on Committees process, in the caucus process, in rule changes over the past seven years, including the two that are before us today-- of the pattern of just

doing something to do it. You know, I don't really believe that either of these rule changes are harmful, but I also don't think that they improve the process here that we have in the Legislature; I think it's almost a lateral move. You know, I think that when we're introducing things on the floor procedurally through our rules process, sometimes it's so a staffer who had the idea can, can, you know, go to happy hour afterward and say, look at the win I got for my boss. Look at-- we got something done. We changed a rule. OK, but what did that actually do? And I feel that way about both of the rules that are before us. You know, looking at this rule, Senator Machaela Cavanaugh made a very valid point, talking about, well, it used to be that you needed three signatures to get a bill off of consent calendar; now it's five. Now we're making it so we can have five signatures to divide a, a motion to approve gubernatorial appointments. We just get down this slippery slope and this road-- in the name of efficiency, ostensibly, always-- of simplifying the process, making it more efficient. But what all this is actually doing in practice, colleagues, is increasing bureaucracy. It's increasing the rules and changing the rules at every turn and opportunity that we get. Is it to say that we got something done and we did something quote unquote, that actually has no material benefit for the process at all? Or is it to increase bureaucracy? And I would just ask us to question that. I, I will probably vote for both of these rules. I don't think that they improve anything. I don't think that they do enough to materially change our process. And I think that the rules that we have been working under for the last several biennia at least, are fine. And every two years we come up against an opportunity to share our views together about how we think we can improve the process. This year, these are the two improvements that came out of the Rules Committee, and they're a little bit toothless, right? You know, for example, looking at Senator Ibach's proposal, you know, that you have to submit a statement of intent basically right away after you introduce a bill. Well, what if you don't? You know, what if-- what if you don't? What if your L.A. is late? What if your legislative aide is late filing that? What, what happens to them? Does the L.A. get censured? No, nothing like that is going to happen. So I want to, again, share this observation, share caution from the little bit of experience that we can even gain in this body in this short eight years that, that some of us may have the opportunity to serve and say change for the sake of change is not an improvement on the process. I think we need to be

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vigilant against increasing bureaucracy. And if it's not broke, we don't always have to fix it. Thank you, Mr. President.

ARCH: Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, you're recognized to speak.

M. CAVANAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to kind of wrap up my thoughts quickly. Thank you to Senator Hansen for having that discussion with me. I, I understand the desire to streamline the process and to make gubernatorial appointments move through the body more quickly and efficiently because there are so many. But I do remain concerned about the lack of established guidelines for how candidates are vetted and that we have at times had been faced with candidates that have come to the floor, and-- because we have no guidelines for how they're vetted-- it has come to light in the middle of debate that perhaps this person is not qualified or desirable by 25 members of the Legislature. And so it, it can get a little messy. And I, I think the fact that we can already put out committee reports in groupings, maybe not to the extent of multiple divisions or areas, but, but we can still put them out in groupings for efficiency's sake. I, I worry about making it more obtuse and less transparent, not only to ourselves but to the greater public. And that's-- that, that could be a long list of gubernatorial appointments that we put into one report. And so I would caution making that change. So I, I talked to Senator Hansen about this this morning that I didn't think I was going to support this. I appreciate the conversation he and I had on the microphone. And I yield the remainder of my time.

ARCH: Seeing no one left in the queue, Senator Lippincott, you are welcome to close.

LIPPINCOTT: As we said a few moments ago, this did come out of Committee 6-0, and I really have nothing more to add to it. Thank you, sir.

ARCH: Colleagues about the we are about to take is Rule Change number 6, as introduced by Senator Hansen, Rule 3, Section 4. All those in favor, vote aye; all those opposed, vote nay. Has everyone voted who wished to vote? Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 39 ayes, 7 nays on adoption of the proposed rule change.

ARCH: The rule change is adopted. Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. New bills. LB621, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to public health and welfare; to amend Section 71-7611, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to state intent regarding transfers from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund as prescribed; and repeal the original section. LB622, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to housing assistance; to amend Sections 58-701, 58-705, 58-706, 58-707, 58-708, 58-711 9-- 76-901, 76-903, and 77-1327, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for the Statewide Housing Assistance Program under the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act; to change provisions relating to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, recipients of assistance, and selection of recipients under the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act; to change provisions relating to the rate and distri-- disbursement of the documentary stamp tax; to harmonize provisions; provide an operative date; repeal the original section. LB623, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to appropriations; to provide for appropriations; declare an emergency. LB624, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to the State Treasurer; and to state intent regarding future appropriations. LB625, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to school districts; for provide for the establishment of a database of financial information from all school districts in the state; and to provide duties to the Tax Commissioner and the Department of Revenue. LB626, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to the Community Development Law; to amend Section 18-2102, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 18-2101-- 18-2101.02, and 18-2103, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to authorize redevelopment projects involving affordable housing as prescribed; to define and redefine terms; to harmonize provisions; repeal original section. LB627, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to The University of Nebraska; to provide for design and construction of facilities for the University of Nebraska; to state intent regarding funding and appropriations; to provide powers and duties for the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. LB628, introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 76-12-- 76-214, 77-202, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Recreational Trail Easement Property Tax Exemption Act; to change provisions relating to the filing of statements of record easements and property tax exemptions; to provide an operative date; and repeal the original

section. LB629, introduced by Senator Hardin. It's a bill for an act relating to counties; to adopt the County Initiative and Referendum Act. LB630, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act; to amend Section 38-2501, 38-2503, 38-2507, 38-2512, 38-2513, 38-2514, 38-2520, 38-2526, 38-2530, and 38-2531, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 38-2516 and 38-2517, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define and redefine terms; to provide and change scope of practice requirements for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants as prescribed; and repeal the original section. LB631, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to the School Emergency Response Mapping Fund; to amend Section 79-3111, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to state intent regarding funding; to repeal the original section; and declare an emergency. LB632, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to unborn children; to require the disposition of the remains of an aborted unborn child as prescribed. LB633, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to education; to amend Section 79-239, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the applicants [SIC] rejection under the enrollment option program; to define terms; to create the Nebraska Option Enrollment Tuition Account Program; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section; and declare an emergency. LB634, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to government; to adopt the Legislative Sunset Review Act; to eliminate the Legislature's Planning Committee; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to provide an operative date; and to outright repeal Sections 50-419.03, 50-435, 50-1401, 50-1402, 50-1403, 50-1404, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB635, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to the State Athletic Commissioner; to amend Section 81-8,129, 81-8,130, 81-8,131.01 [SIC-- 81-8,130.01] 81-8,132, 81-8,133, 81-8,133.01, 81-8,134, 81-8,135, 81-8,138, and 81-8,139, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to authorize the regulation of professional bare-knuckles mixed martial arts, professional mixed martial arts on ice, amateur kickboxing, and slap fighting; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original section. LB636, introduced by Senators Ibach and Storer. A bill for an act relating to counties; to amend Section 77-1720, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 33-117, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide that counties may seek reimbursement from the State for costs for providing medical services to county jail inmates; to

define terms; to provide powers and duties for the Jail Standards Board; to change provisions relating to sheriff's fees; to repeal the original section; declare an emergency. LB637, introduced by Senator Ballard. It's a bill for an act relating to economic development; to amend Section 18-2103, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Destination Nebraska Act; to provide for certain taxing authority; to redefine a term under the Community Development Law; and repeal the original section. LB638, introduced by Senator Ibach. It's a bill for an act relating to the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act; to amend Section 2-414, 2-416, and 2-417, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to eliminate provisions relating to incentive payments and legislative intent; to change provisions of the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Cash Fund; to change a termination date; repeal the original section; declare an emergency. LB639, introduced by Senator Clouse. It's a bill for an act relating to insurance; to require dental plan carriers to meet a minimum dental loss ratio and provide a report to the Department of Insurance as prescribed; to provide powers and duties to the Department of Insurance. LB640, introduced by the Judiciary Committee. It's a bill for an act relating to jails; to amend Section 47-502, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to sentence reduction for good behavior during confinement in a jail; and repeal the original section. LB641, introduced by Senator Bostar. It's a bill for an act relating to the medical assistance program; to amend Section 68-919, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to medicaid estate recovery by the Department of Health and Human Services; and repeal the original section. LB642, introduced by Senator Bostar. It's a bill for an act relating to discrimination; to adopt the Artificial Intelligence Consumer Protection Act; and provide severability. LB643, introduced by Senator Prokop. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to define terms; to prohibit deductions relating to interest or tax paid on maintenance of certain properties; and to provide exemptions to prohibited deductions. LB644, introduced by Senator Bostar at the request of the governor. It's a bill for an act relating to foreign entities; to amend Section 49-1480, 49-14,126, 49-14,140, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 73-901, 73-903, 73-905, 73-906, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Foreign Adversary and Terrorist Agent Registration Act and the Crush Transnational Repression in Nebraska Act; to provide requirements under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act for a lobbyist engaged in

a lobbying activity or a consultant engaged in influencing activity on behalf of a Chinese military company; to provide for payments by the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission to persons reporting certain violations; to provide for civil penalties; to define terms; to provide duties; to change provisions of the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act relating to certain allowed contracts; to prohibit certain companies from receiving benefits from incentive programs; to provide requirements and restrictions relating to genetic sequencing activities by medical and research facilities; to provide storage requirements for genetic sequencing data and prohibit remote access to such data; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; to provide severability; and repeal the original sections. LB645, introduced by Senator Ballard at the request of the governor. It's a bill for an act relating to the School Retirement Fund; to amend Section 79-966, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change state contributions; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB646, introduced by Senator Ibach and others. It's a bill for an act relating to the Livestock Brand Act; to amend Section 54-170, 54-171, 54-1,119, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define a term; provide for exempt feedlots; to provide for a fee; to provide powers and duties for the Nebraska Brand Committee; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB647, introduced by the Revenue Committee. It's a bill for an act relating to property taxes; to amend Section 77-120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the net book value; to provide an operative date; and repeal the original section. LB648, introduced by the Revenue Committee. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-2701.02, 77-27,132 Reissue Revised Stat-- Statute Cumulative-- Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change the sales and use tax rate; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and repeal the original section. LB649, introduced by the Revenue Committee. It's a bill for an act relating to income tax; to amend Section 77-2715.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to a certain tax rate; and repeal the original section. LB650, introduced by Senator von Gillern at the request of the governor. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 13-3106, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 77-908, 77-2701.04, 77-2701.16, 77-2703, 77-2704.36, 77-2708, 77-2715.07, 77-2716, 77-2717, 77-2733, 77-2734.03, 77-27,187.02, 77-27,188, 77-27,241, 77-3109, 77-3110, 77-3111, 77-3120, 77-3125, 77-3126, 77-3136,

77-3143, 77-3152, 77-3169, 77-3806, 77-4405, 77-6605, 77-6607, 77-6610, 77-6619, 77-7012, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide sunset date for applications involving sports complexes and large public stadiums under the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act; to eliminate sales exemptions relating to towers used for furnishing Internet access services, net wrap, and twine; to change sales tax collection fees; to change provisions relating to nonresident income and a food donation tax credit; to change provisions relating to tax credits allowed under the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act, the Relocation Incentive Act, the Creating High Impact Economic Futures Act, the Cast and Crew Nebraska Act, Nebraska Short Rail Modernization-- Shortline Rail Modernization Act, the Nebraska Pregnancy Help Act, the Reverse Osmosis System Tax Credit Act, the Renewable Chemical Prop-- Production Tax Credit Act, the Nebraska Biodiesel Tax Credit Act; to provide and change sunset dates for the approval of application for the Good Life Transformational Projects Act and the Urban Redevelopment Act; to eliminate the substantial, substantial aviation fuel tax credit, credit act [SIC], and provisions relating to the appointment of purchasing agents; to harmonize provisions; provide operative dates; repeal the original section; outright repeal Sections 77-2701.56, 77-2706.02, 77-7017, 77-7018, 77-7019, 77-7020, 77-7021 and 77-7022, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; and declare an emergency. LB651, introduced by Senator Conrad. It's a bill for an act relating to cannabis; to amend Sections 28-439, 53-105, 53-106, 53-110, 53-111, 60-6,121.08 [SIC-- 60-6,211.08], 77-2701.48, 77-2704.09, 77-4303, 81-2,239, 81-2,263 and 81-1021, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Sections 28-416, 71-5727, 77-2701.02, 77-27,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, and Sections 1, 2 and 3, Initiative Law 2024, Number 437, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Initiative Law 2024, Number 40-- 438; to change provisions of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act and the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act; to change provisions relating to controlled substance drug paraphernalia and the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission and its commissioners, executive directors and employees; to define terms; to impose a special sales and use tax on sales of medical cannabis; to provide for the distribution of tax revenue; to prohibit possession of an open container of cannabis in a motor vehicle; to provide for applicability of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Act-- Air Act and the Nebraska Pure Food Act; to remove medical cannabis from marijuana controlled substance tax; to provide for

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unmarked vehicles; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; and repeal the original section; outright repeal Sections 28-463, 28-464, 28-465, 28-466, 28-467, 28-468 and 28-469, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 2 and 6, Initiative Law 2024, Number 438; and to declare an emergency. That's all I have at this time.

ARCH: Senator Hansen, you are recognized for an announcement.

HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, just as another reminder that the Revisor's office has informed me that all three-parts have been delivered. If you are expecting one and you didn't rec-- if you're expecting one you didn't receive, make sure you contact Bill Drafters ASAP to get some clarity on that. But again, all three-parts have been delivered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, for next item on the agenda.

CLERK: Mr. President, pursuant to the motion to adopt permanent rules that was before the Legislature, Senator-- excuse me. The Rules Committee would propose rule change-- an amendment to Rule Change 21. This proposed rule change would affect Rule 5, Section 4.

ARCH: Senator Lippincott, you are recognized to open.

LIPPINCOTT: Thank you, sir. Again, I would like to thank the Rules Committee for all their help. This rule, Rule number 5, Section number 4 came out unanimous 5-0. And I'd like to now please turn over my time to Senator Ibach.

ARCH: Senator Ibach, 9 minute, 45.

IBACH: Thank you, Mr. President. I am pleased to speak to you today about my Proposed Rule Change number 21. This change is a straightforward change that affects the timeliness of the information that we share with our constituents and those stakeholder-- holders who watch the Legislature daily. Each year, as we introduce legislation, our offices all receive calls and emails from Nebraskans across our state who are reading legislation and wondering what a bill is intended to do. While we all understand how to read a bill, it can be less clear for folks who are hearing how a bill impacts them, but are-- and are unfamiliar with reading the legislation. Under this proposed rule change, beginning next session, senators would be

required to submit our statement of intent within three days of a bill being referenced to a committee. This is aimed to help those watching at home or outside of the building know the general concept of a bill at the time of its introduction. This would get to the core of the bill in the introducer-- introducing senator's own-- own words. This rule comes after a great deal of conversation in this building, and numerous Nebraskans, lobbyists, staffers and senators have participated in this discussion about this idea over the last few years, with the overwhelming response has been positive. While there would be some small details that would be need to-- needed to fleshed out during the-- in the internal systems, these small changes can easily be accomplished by our wonderful technology division, and our very dedicated Clerk and his staff. Thank you, and I ask for your support on making this change to Rule 21.

ARCH: Seeing no one in the queue, Senator Lippincott, you are recognized. Excuse me, Senator Hallstrom. You're recognized to speak.

HALLSTROM: Mr. President, excuse me. I'm talking over here. Would ask Senator Ibach to field a-- yield to a question.

ARCH: Senator Ibach, will you yield?

IBACH: I will.

HALLSTROM: Senator Ibach, I've already visited with you, and I just wanted to clarify for the record. Obviously, different words have different meanings. And I-- as I was looking at the proposed rule, it indicates that there's referencing and re-referencing, and referencing of the bill initially-- let's say to the Transportation Committee-- triggers the new three days from the time of, of referencing, and then the bill would be re-referenced to the Judiciary Committee. Is it your intention for purposes of triggering that three day time period that referencing and re-referencing constitute the same act so that it is three days from both referencing and re-referencing?

IBACH: Yes. And thank you, Senator Hallstrom, for that question. And to just clarify, yes, it would be three days from when the bill is referenced. So if your bill is referenced today in referencing, the first day will start tomorrow, and then Friday would be day two, and Monday would be day three. If your bill is re-referenced, then that

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time allotment will start over. So it's not the day that the bill is dropped; it's the day that the bill is referenced. So--

HALLSTROM: OK. Thank you. And the second question I have is-- and this may be wordsmithing, or a matter, matter of semantics-- but we talk about the initial submission triggers the requirement of the time frame, and then we talk about having to do something when it's-- or, to have it resubmitted, and you're submitting it to the Transportation Committee in my first one. And my question is, how do I resubmit it to the Judiciary Committee when I haven't submitted it to the Judiciary Committee in the first place?

IBACH: So that's a process that you do online, and your, your L.A. should be able to put the language together and put that on the website.

HALLSTROM: Yeah, my, my question was more technical that it's hard for me to resubmit something in my example to the Judiciary Committee when I haven't submitted a first time. If, if I was drafting this, I'd probably say that it should be submitted to the second committee.

IBACH: Yes, that's correct.

HALLSTROM: Thank you.

ARCH: Seeing no one left in the queue, Senator Lippincott, you're welcome to close.

LIPPINCOTT: [INAUDIBLE] We appreciate those questions. Actually, what Senator Hallstrom just asked were some of the things we talked about in committee. And we cleared it up, and the bill morphed into what you see now before you. It did pass out of committee 5-0, unanimous. And I appreciate your time. Thank you, sir.

ARCH: Colleagues, the question before the body is the, is the motion to adopt the permanent rules, Rule Change number 21, which affects Rule 5, Section 4. All those, all those in favor, vote aye; all those opposed, vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 41 ayes, 2 nays on adoption of the proposed rule change.

ARCH: The motion is successful. Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. New bills. LB652, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a bill for an act relating to school lands; to amend Section 72-201, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to terminate the Board of Educational Lands and Funds; provide for the sale of school lands as prescribed; and repeal the original section. LB653, introduced by Senator Murman and others. It's a bill for an act relating to education; to amend Sections 79-238, 79-239, 79-246, 79-1021, and 79-1142, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to applications, capacity and reports, and provide for reimbursement for certain students under the enrollment option program; to change authorized uses of the Educational Future Fund; to change provisions relating to reimbursement of-- for special education program support services; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB645 [SIC-- LB654], introduced by Senator Murman. It's a bill for an act relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture; and to declare an emergency. LB655 introduced by Senator Murman and others. It's a bill for an act relating to health care; to provide for the medical conscience-based objections as prescribed. LB656, introduced by Senator Andersen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to public assistance; to amend Section 68-1017.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change requirements relating to the work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; provide an operative date; and repeal the original section. LB657, introduced by Senator Andersen. It's a bill for an act relating to crimes and offenses; to amend Section 28-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to create the offense of assault on a sports official; to provide a penalty; to harmonize provisions; and repeal the original section. LB658, introduced by Senator Andersen. It's a bill for an act relating to the Nebraska Pure Food Act; to amend Section 81-2,239, 81-2,240 and 81-2,238 [SIC-- 81-2,283], Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; to provide labeling and advertising requirements for manufactured-protein food products; to provide powers and duties to the Department of Agriculture; and repeal the original section. LB659, introduced by Senator Andersen. It's a bill for an act relating to the Election Act; to amend Section 32-101, 32-1049, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to vote counting devices; to provide for watchers and observers; to provide duties; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB660, introduced by Senator Andersen. It's a bill for an act relating to government procurement; to adopt the Secure Drone Purchasing Act.

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LB661, introduced by Senator Andersen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to retirement; to amend Section 72-1246, 72-1256 [SIC-- 72-1254], and 84-602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 72-1239.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide duties for the Nebraska Investment Council regarding investment of retirement systems funds; to provide duties for the state investment officer regarding investment of retire system funds; to require a report relating to certain investments of retirement system funds; to provide a for the State Treasurer; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and repeal the original section; declare an emergency. LB662, introduced by Senator Andersen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to government; to provide for a federal funding inventory from each state agency. LB663, introduced by Senator Storer and others. It's a bill for an act relating to counties; to amend Section 23-114.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for required education for members of county planning commissions, county boards; to change provisions relating to conditional use or special exemption determinations by county planning commissions and county boards; to repeal the original section. LB664, introduced by Senator Storer and others. It's a bill for an act relating to the Administrative-- Administrative Procedure Act; to amend Section 84-906.02 and 84-911, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require agencies to allow for public comment submission relating to proposals or adoptions of rules and regulations as prescribed; to provide for venue to challenge rules or regulations; to repeal the original section; declare an emergency. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

ARCH: Mr. Clerk, next item on the agenda.

CLERK: Mr. President, next item. Senator, the-- Mr. President, pursuant to the motion to adopt permanent rules, Senator Kauth would offer the following proposed rule change distributed to members: Rule 6, Section 9 and changes to Rule 7, Section 10.

ARCH: Senator Kauth, you are recognized to open on your proposed rule change.

KAUTH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to amend from the floor the rules to ask the body to consider a proposed rule change that is going to affect Rule 6, Section 9 and Rule 7, Section 10. So when you're sitting at home-- and good morning, Nebraskans everywhere-- when

you're sitting at home and watching your senator take a vote, and you see them say "present, not voting," I found it to be one of the most infuriating parts of not being actively involved in this process. I never understood why someone would come to the Legislature, do so much hard work, and then not take a stand. So, being in the Legislature, I know that there are some times and reasons that you use present, not voting; but I think we owe it to our constituents to give accountability and transparency to this process. So, through the committee process-- so the, the goal is, I wanted to say-- if you vote present, not voting, originally, I wanted your vote to essentially be removed from the total 49 so that we would have essentially a sliding scale for cloture, so that if you decide to sit out a vote, then-- say, four people decide to sit out, two-thirds of 45 would now be a 30-vote for cloture. Through the committee process, everybody discussed it, and I really appreciate Senator Lippincott, Senator Hansen and Senator DeBoer. They worked a lot with me on this bill, or on this rule change, to talk about how we could get it passed and what could make a difference. The goal is accountability and transparency, so that we understand where our senators stand on the issues. And so we decided on the final reading we would apply this. If you choose to vote present, not voting, your vote would be counted a "no." So, you would know that going into it, that if you decide to sit it out, then you're an automatic no. In our constitution, it discusses that the requirement to accurately record a yea or nay vote, but it doesn't say anything about present, not voting. This seems to be one of those little loopholes that has, has gotten used and abused so that people don't have to take a stand, so that they're not held accountable to their constituents back in their districts about how they chose to vote on a bill. So if a senator knows ahead of time that a present, not voting means no, then they are accepting that choice and they are, are basically selecting a no vote. I know that sometimes we use present, not voting as a way to say, "OK, I need more information" or "I'm not there yet," or it's a negotiating tactic. That needs to happen in the General and the Select bills-- or, Select File. When we're on Final Reading, that is the time for each senator to take a stand and say whether they will or will not support a bill. Saying "I choose not to answer" should not be something that we have available to us. We were sent here for one reason and one reason only: to make very difficult decisions and to represent our constituents doing so. So, voting yes on this rule modification change will be a small step

towards greater accountability and transparency, and I would encourage everyone to vote yes. Thank you.

ARCH: Colleagues, Senator Brandt would like to recognize 35 members of the Nebraska Conservation and Environmental Advocates. They are seated in the north balcony. Please rise and be welcomed by your Nebraska Legislature. The senators in the queue are Senator Conrad, Hunt, DeBoer and Hansen. Senator Conrad, you are recognized to speak.

CONRAD: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. It's my understanding that Senator Kauth has brought forward this measure to ensure that we can build the record and tee-up issues that she finds important so that we can continue to work together on these measures over the interim period, and that we will not be moving to a vote on this measure this morning. If that understanding as to where we are in terms of debate is inaccurate, I hope Senator Kauth or other members will be clear about their intentions in regards to actual potential floor action on this measure. I do appreciate that my friend, Senator Kauth, brought forth this measure in good faith to identify an issue that she has identified as important. However, colleagues, I do want to lift up-- and it is challenging to do a full legal, constitutional policy and practical analysis with just a few, a few hours' time, and we were provided a copy of Senator Kauth's committee amend-- or, floor amendment, I think just within the last hour or so. So, I haven't had a chance until then to, to fully see that. And that is not Senator Kauth's fault, but is a disservice to all members in terms of how we conduct the rules debate, and violates basic components of due process, including notice and opportunity to be heard so that we have a clear understanding of, of what we're bringing forward, and, and I think is something that the Speaker and others have identified to help structure our rules debate and improve them moving forward. Additionally, in lifting this measure, though, I do believe that this measure does implicate constitutional legal policy and practical issues, and here is why. Our constitution requires that we keep an accurate journal of the proceedings of this body. And if adopted, this measure would record a legal fiction. If I am not here, or if I am here and I do not hit yes or no, it is recording an action that did not happen. That's just a basic understanding that I think that we need to think through really very carefully. Additionally, I think that we need to think carefully about why present, not voting was created. In addition to collegiality purposes, it was also created to recognize the fact that we have conflict of interest rules in

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Nebraska. And if we-- if a member has an actual conflict of interest, in many instances they choose to be present, not voting in order to not violate state law and their own ethics. That's another compelling reason why it would be wrong to force a member to record a vote as yea or nay if they have a financial or other kind of conflict of interest. Additionally, I'm not aware of any instance where this has happened in the Nebraska legislature, but this has happened on the congressional level. There are members that serve in legislative bodies that have a religious freedom, a religious conscience, a religious dictate against taking action, for example, in regards to things like a declaration or support of war. It would be wrong to compel, through forced government action, a member to violate their religious conscience and dictates by forcing them to record a vote against such, potentially. Additionally, even though the United States Supreme Court has ruled on these matter measures in similar cases emanating-- oh, I'm going to run out of time. One minute-- out of our sister state of Nevada, and it's not exactly an apples-to-apples comparison when it comes to political expression, protected for, for votes and speech under the First Amendment. This is arguably forced government speech, compelled government action, and that does not sit right in terms of American principles, where we allow each individual the autonomy to decide to vote or not vote for their reasons. We do not hold a bayonet to the head of Americans and force them to go to the polling place, and we should not do that with our colleagues in the Legislature as well; that violates basic American principles of autonomy and expression. Additionally, the rule has been changed overnight versus what is before us today, but the prior version would have also caused very practical problems in regards to--

ARCH: Time, Senator.

CONRAD: --quorum problems. Thank you, Mr. President.

ARCH: Members in the queue are Senator Hunt, DeBoer, Hansen, Kauth and Raybould. Senator Hunt, you are recognized to speak.

HUNT: President-- thank you, Mr. President. I think Senator Conrad shared some very important points for all of us to consider. Questions like this aren't just about your preference. Like, I think it's totally valid for Senator Kauth-- and I've heard many other people in the body share her view that-- you know what she said, she thinks it's infuriating that people vote present, not voting; that she doesn't

understand why you campaign and you win elections, and then you come in here and you don't vote. I've heard many people say things like this. But even if you don't prefer this, it does raise some legal issues, as, as Senator Conrad started to spell out here for us. One concern that I have about eliminating present, not voting is I think that this is something that will amplify partisan divisions that are already infesting and infiltrating our culture in this Legislature. We have term limits that have removed a lot of the wisdom and experience from this body. We have a lot of partisan financial influence in elections that have further eroded nonpartisan spirit of this body. And of course, none of us are-- we're all partisan, we're all, we're all members of parties; we're all-- besides myself, of course. But we have ideology, we have views, and we are elected to convey those views. But we were not elected to compel the speech of other members. And that's what this proposed rule change does. You know, to say nothing of the procedure and the process through which this came to the floor as a floor amendment, this rule change was not voted out of committee; it was actually held in committee. And so, we're actually debating something that the Rules Committee didn't see fit for the floor. So, you know, safeguarding the minority voices-- the, the reason that we have present, not voting is it kind of forces senators into these binary choices. You know, are you a yes or a no? And it doesn't, it doesn't recognize the complexity that a lot of these issues have in them. There's a lot of times that you're present, not voting on a policy idea that you generally support, but you're-- you can't support the whole thing because of other things that have been added to the bill. It's becoming more and more normalized in this "legitature" to have what we call "Christmas tree bills," where you have an underlying bill and then there's, you know, all different kinds of amendments that are put on it, and maybe you support, you know, 70% of what's going on, but there's a deal-breaker in there for you. You all know about deal-breakers. We have them. And these are important parts of every negotiation that we have as lawmakers. And sometimes, that's a time that you would want to be present, not voting. Finally, I think it's hypocritical. You know, who cares about hypocrisy? We all do hypocritical things in here, but it's very hypocritical to hear this rule change introduced by a sponsor who has been president not voting many, many times on very consequential matters before us in the Legislature. Senator Kauth was present, not voting to adopt a committee amendment to a bill from Senator Brewer to establish veterans' treatment courts across the state. This was

something that was opposed by prosecutors. On Final Reading, she was present, not voting on LB856 to allow child care workers to be eligible for child care subsidies in the field that they're actually working in. That bill passed, you know, easily in this Legislature, and she was present, not voting on Final for that. She was present, not voting on LB514, our voter ID bill on Final Reading. And she can speak to why that was. You know, maybe it's a reason that I talked about; maybe there was something in those bills where she said, I support the idea, but I'm not quite there, I'm going to be a present, not voting. These are the kinds of things that protect collegiality in our body. These are examples that I found this morning, sitting at my desk here, on my cell phone in just a few minutes that I was able to put together. And I don't fault her for introducing this. I agree it was introduced in good faith. I think she's trying to solve a problem. But once again, going back to what I said this morning earlier, I don't think this is a real problem that exists. We've superseded and circumvented the process to get here to debating this rule on the floor, and it impacts the nonpartisan spirit of this body. So for that reason, I will be present, not voting on this rules change. Thank you, Mr. President.

ARCH: Senator DeBoer, you're recognized to speak.

DeBOER: Thank you, Mr. President. First, I want to thank the members of the Rules Committee and our fearless leader, Senator Lippincott as we worked on this bill, and-- err, bill. Proposed rule change. And as we were thinking about what to do here. And Senator Kauth did work with us. I can't remember if Senator Hansen or I had the idea to kind of move in this direction, but it was one of us. And if it wasn't me, then I said, "Yeah, let's try that direction." And I also want to say that, you know, the thing with rules is that we are on such a short clock. You know, we don't have the kind of time with rules that you have for other committees for, for bills, right? I mean, here we are on Day 10; we've already had our hearing, we're on the floor, and this is the final vote on the floor. So if you think about that, I mean, it's a very compressed timeline. So I think that's part of the reason why here we are with something that is still kind of fluid. So-- would Senator Kauth yield to a question?

ARCH: Senator Kauth, will you yield?

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KAUTH: Yes.

DeBOER: And I spoke to you a minute ago about this. So, since I've gotten the, the proposed change that you all got on your desk-- you put your initials in the number of your district so that you can pass it around, the pages will pass it around-- I noticed that it doesn't say when it goes into effect. And so, you and I were talking off-mic about when it would go into effect, because one of the things, just, like, the physical things that will have to happen is our board will have to be programmed to shift those that are absent from no light to a red light. So one of the questions I would have for you is, when do you envision this going into effect?

KAUTH: Thank you, Senator DeBoer. And we would have to figure out with the Clerk's office, how does that-- how long will that take? What I would think that as soon as the effect is made on the board, we should put it into effect. But that's, that is definitely a question that we're going to have to figure out, because it will take some programming, and sometimes things take a little bit longer around here. But I would say we would need to wait until it's something, so that we can all see it and understand what's happening.

DeBOER: So-- and you know, I'm here with you along the way, trying to figure out what the best way to go is. I would wonder if maybe we could think about doing this next year instead of this year. Work on it to get it right. Get the programming done, or have them figure out how to do the programimng so they can just switch a switch to do it in the interim. It's not a place for things to die. It's just that in rules-- I mean, you remember last year we did a bunch of rules at the beginning because we had worked on them. The Speaker and some members of the Rules Committee and various eyes had gotten on them-- I don't know if you had a chance to look at some of them-- and we had all kind of work together so that then, when we had these somewhat more substantial rules changes, it wasn't happening in, like, a week's time. So, I don't know if you would consider working on this so that we can get it to work right. I appreciate the work that you've done with me already. I don't know if you would consider working on this. And I will help you and, and-- to the best of my ability-- I don't always get it-- we'll get Senator Hansen in there; he's smart on rules-- and, and work on it then.

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KAUTH: I think every time we postpone and pass the buck, we are not representing our constituents well. This is the third year I've, I've asked for this to be considered, so that's why I'm bringing it from the floor this year. It's something that I frequently hear in the district and yes, I have had to use it. There are times when you do need to use it for a conflict of interest. There are times when I haven't known what I wanted to vote. So I think that this is something that we need to get used to doing and get started now. I don't think postponing this is a good idea. I think as soon as we are able to-- if we make the change, then as soon as the Clerk is able to make it happen--

DeBOER: Well, one, I would have a concern with putting in our Rule Book "as soon as the Clerk can make the change," because that isn't the kind of language we use in a Rule Book. We'd have to have a date certain, I would think.

KAUTH: OK.

DeBOER: Two, I don't-- I-- I mean, I understand what you're saying about postponing. Whatever. I will say this new way of doing it that you put before us this morning, I don't think we've talked about that way of doing it before. So I had not thought of this way of having the lights change on the board before, until we had it in committee. We were talking about it the other day.

KAUTH: It's just a--

DeBOER: So I think we're making progress.

KAUTH: It's something that, you know, does--

ARCH: Time, Senators.

KAUTH: Oh. Thank you.

ARCH: Senator Hansen, you are recognized to speak.

HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll try to get as much in here as I can in the time that I have allotted, and answer as many questions as I can. So, colleagues, I feel like this is a constituent-driven rule change. If there's one rule change I've had the most emails, phone calls about, besides secret ballots, it's, it's been our constituents

ability to make sure we have clarity, transparency in how we vote, especially on Final Reading, so at the end, it's a yes or a no. Present, not voting, in our body might mean something to us, but to our constituents, the people of Nebraska, they have no idea what the hell we're thinking. You know, what, what that means, I think, a lot of times. And so I think this provides a lot more clarity to our constituents, is what they are hungry for right now from their government. I want to bring up a little bit about conflict of interest. We currently have a conflict of interest form that you can fill out prior to a vote that the Speaker then-- it goes to the Speaker for him to fill out-- or, to sign; goes to the Clerk's office to sign. That shows your intent of the, of the conflict of interest, whether it's because of religious reasons, whether it's because of financial reasons, which might answer a couple of questions that Senator Conrad had. So you're stating your conflict of interest. Compelled speech. So, every state right now has different ways about how they have their body vote, and so this is not unusual. I don't feel like it's compelling speech; I think it's clarifying speech. But we're not forcing you to push that button. You have every right to sit back there, cross your arms, and not vote. We have every right about how it's recorded for the people to see, whether it's on the board or whether it's in the Journal. We have a right to do that per the Mason's Manual. And Senator Wayne is watching right now, he'd be proud of me. I actually brought the Mason's Manual here. You know, he has this in his back pocket every, every day and is just waiting to use it against us. And so Mason's Manual, Chapter 45, Section 521: members must vote unless excused. It is a general rule that a legislative body can not only compel the attendance of its members, but it can also require them to vote unless excused by the body from voting. Number two, each house, under its power to make rules for its own governance, has power to excuse members from voting. And number three, it is a practice in the state legislatures to excuse a member from voting when that member has a personal interest in the proposed voting upon or for other good cause. That brings me to another point: this does not affect excused, not voting. If you're excused, not voting, this doesn't affect that at all. It's still recorded as excused, not voting. If there's a snowstorm, you can't make it here if you're in the hospital because you're sick, if other things are going on outside the body that we don't know about that we have no right to know about, you can still be excused, not voting. It seems like this is a little bit more of an ethical versus a procedural argument. There's one

argument saying we shouldn't do this for ethical X, Y, and Z reasons, because we're compelling speech. I'm making the point-- and I'm assuming the introducer is as well-- that this is a procedural argument, saying how can people see this? How can we record it on the board, and how can we record it in the Journal? And in a spirit of compromise, if anybody read Senator Kauth's original bill, it was much more broad, much more restrictive; this has been whittled-down to a toothpick, to give our constituents some clarity, which is the intent of the bill, but not restricting what the numbers when-- how people vote. The argument that this didn't go through committee, it did go-- the more broad version of it went through committee, had-- and had good debate and good discussion. We're actually narrowing this down. Now, I can see where we might have a problem if we were taking something small and making it much more broad here on the floor, which is what we're not doing. Then, the hearing process might make more sense. We're not doing that. We're actually making it smaller. I do want to bring up one thing, maybe for the introducer of the bill and the colleagues, and maybe some of the people arguing this. If they would be open to the idea of-- if you fill out the con-- conflict of interest form, you would then be coun-- counted as excused, not voting. I think that would take care of many arguments that we're hearing on the floor right now. If you fill out the conflict of interest form, you'd be counted as excused, not voting. We can do that, and we have the ability to do that. That might be an option for a way to kind of-- for us to kind of come together on this, which is what I'm looking for. I just want to give an example of another state-- which is what we could do, but I think a lot of people may not want to do it. Colorado right now says you are record-- you're required to vote yes or no in Colorado; but you do have the option to say present but refusing to vote. I don't know if many people want to do that. So instead of present, not voting, you record as present but refusing to vote. That provides some clarity maybe to our constituents. I don't think I'm a big fan of going down that direction. I like the idea of being it much more simple, saying yes or no.

ARCH: Time, Senator.

HANSEN: Oh. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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ARCH: The senators in the queue are Senator Kauth, Raybould, Conrad, and Hallstrom. Senator Kauth, you are recognized to speak.

KAUTH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, thank you guys for this debate. This is really excellent. I do want to address something that Senator Hansen just brought up. I love the idea of, if you have a conflict, to say that's an excused absence. I think that does make things very, very clear, because there are frequently times when we have conflicts, conflicts. We have senators who are involved in industry who are voting possibly on a bill that would actually benefit them. We can't do that. So we-- I think that's a great, great change. To Senator Conrad's-- first of all, very dramatic, very hyperbolic bayonet to the head. I have not heard that one. So, very, very dramatic as far as the compelled speech. I think that when we were elected, we were sent here to do a job that does compel us to make these decisions. We signed up for this. This isn't forced. We volunteered. As Senator Hunt says, we did work very, very hard to get here to represent our constituents. So saying that, that making us take a vote-- either yes or no-- is compelling speech, I think is a little histrionic. To Senator Hunt's point that it will amplify partisan behaviors, I'm not sure that that's possible. And I do, I do hear the phrase "safeguarding the minority voice." I have an issue with that. We are a Unicameral that is nonpartisan; there is no majority, there is no minority. We are 49 individual voices who are constantly working with each other to figure out what is the best thing to do for the state of Nebraska. So, because we are nonpartisan, we don't have a minority voice to protect; it's each one of us who needs to work with each other. So I think when we talk about partisanship-- us being required to take a stand, that's part of our job. And I do hold myself to the same standard. If we pass this, I absolutely will understand because, you know, if I decide not to vote on this issue, it's going to be perceived as a no. It will be recorded as a no. That's a choice. We're all adults. We can make those choices. We can choose to stay out of it. And no, that is going to be a no vote. That's not forcing our hand; that's saying you have two choices, not you have two choices plus an easy out. So I would, I would very much like to add to this the part about the excused absences if you have a conflict. I understand from the Clerk that we do not need a date certain. Thank you, Senator DeBoer, for finding that information out. And I, I would like to point out that this is something that has been we've been working on it for a few days since the hearing,

talking about it with a lot of different senators working, or make-- as Senator Hansen said, my original was if you can't vote present, not voting, that that needs to be recorded. And so this is-- this really is a much, much more minor version, but I think it will achieve the purpose, and that is for our constituents. That's for all you Nebraskans out there who are watching and who are wondering why on earth did my senator not take a stand? Now, you can always call your senator's office and ask them that question, and your senator should answer you and have a reason. But many people won't take that time. Many people will just hear they aren't-- they aren't voting on something again or at all, and it was important to me. We need our constituents to understand where we stand on the issues. Thank you.

ARCH: Colleagues, due to the influx of bills here, we are going to read new bills at this time.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB665, introduced by Senator Storer, DeKay, Guereca, Holdcroft, Ibach, Murman, Rountree. A bill for an act relating to the Animal Health and Disease Control Act; to amend Sections 54-2901, 54-2902, 54-2939, and 54-2948, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define a term; to restate legislative findings and declarations; to prohibit electronic identification devices relating to foreign adversaries as prescribed; to prohibit certain actions by the Department of Agriculture; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB666, introduced by Senator Storer. A bill for an act relating to the Rural Communications Sustainability Act; to amend Section 86-1505, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the duties of the Public Service Commission; and to repeal the original section. LB667, introduced by Senator Storer. Bill for an act relating to the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act; to amend Section 60-1438, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the compensation for diagnostic work and compensation for parts; and to repeal the original section. LB668, introduced by Senators Storer, Ibach and Lippincott. A bill for an act relating to the Department of Health and Human Services; to amend Sections 28-30-- 28-374.01 and 28-720, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-713.01, 28-718, and 68-1212, Reissued Statute-- Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the Adult Protective Services Central Registry Act and the central registry of child protection cases as prescribed; to change provisions relating to case managers; and to repeal the original sections. LB669, introduced by Senators

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Storer, Andersen, Bosn, DeKay, Holdcroft, Ibach and Murman, and Rountree. A bill for an act relating to abortion; to amend Sections 28-325, 28-327.03, 28-327.04, 28-327.06, 28-327.11, and 28-327.12, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-326, 28-327, and 38-2021, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to restate legislative intent; to eliminate defined terms; to change requirements for voluntary and informed consent; to change requirements relating to civil actions; to harmonize provisions; and repeal the original sections. LB670, introduced by Senator Murman at the request of the governor. A bill for an act relating to public health and welfare; to amend Sections 79-2,144, 79-308, 79-609, 79-706, 79-2704 and 81-527, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 43-2606, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to required trainings for providers of childcare and school-age care programs, teachers, paraeducators, school resource officers, and security guards; to require each school district and each governing board of a nonpublic school to adopt a safety plan as prescribed; to change provisions relating to the powers and duties of the state school security director and the State Fire Marshal; to change provisions relating to transportation of pupils by school bus; to harmonize provisions and to repeal the original sections. LB671, introduced by Senator Murman. A bill for an act relating to education; to amend Sections 79-239, 79-266, 79-308, 79-528, 79-816, 79-8,114, 79-1035, 79-11,157.1 [SIC-- 79-11,157.01], 79-3407, 79-3703, and 79-3704, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to reports and documents required by the State Department of Education, alternative schools classes and educational programs, teachers' institutions and conferences, the Nebraska Teacher Apprenticeship Program, grants for teachers, and the College Pathway Program Act; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to eliminate legislative intent relating to the Junior Mathematics Prognosis Examination; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 79-309.01 and 79-718, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB672, introduced by Senator Raybould. A bill for an act relating to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act; to amend Section 49-1401, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide a limit on contributions made to a candidate committee as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB673, introduced by Senator Raybould. A bill for an act relating to the Perkins County Canal Project; to amend Sections 61-302 and 61-305, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

2024; to restate intent relating to the Perkins County Canal Project; to transfer money from the Perkins County Canal Project-- Project Fund to the Water Sustainability Fund; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency. LB674, introduced by Senator Raybould. Bill for an act relating to the Perkins County Canal Project; to amend Sections 61-302 and 61-305, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, (2024); to restate intent regarding the Perkins County Canal project; to transfer money from Perkins County Canal Project Fund to the General Fund and the Water Sustainability Fund; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. LB675, introduced by Senator Raybould. A bill for an act relating to school lands; to amend Sections 72-212 and 72-253, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 72-232, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide requirements for the purchase, lease, sale or exchange of school lands located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation; to define terms; and to repeal the original sections. LB676, introduced by Senator Hansen. A bill for an act relating to certified nurse midwives; to amend Sections 38-206, 38-601, 38-603, 38-604, 38-606, 38-607, 38-608, 38-610, 38-611 and 44-2803, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide change and eliminate definitions; to eliminate practice agreements; to change and eliminate provisions relating to the authorized scope of practice; to provide for the applicability of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 39-609 [SIC-- 38-609], 38-613 and 38-614, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB677, introduced by Senator Hansen. A bill for an act relating to cannabis; to amend Sections 28-439, 53-105, 53-106, 53-110, 53-111, 60-6,211.08, 70-2701.48 [SIC-- 77-2701.48], 77-2704.9 [SIC-- 77-2704.09], 77-4303, 81-2,239, 81-2,263 and 81-1021, Revised-- Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Sections 28-416, 71-5727, 77-2701.02, and 77-27,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, and Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5, Initiative Law 2024, Number 438; to change provisions of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act; to change provisions relating to controlled substances and drug paraphernalia, and the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission and its commissioners, executive directors and employees; to define terms; to impose a special sales and use tax rate on sales of medical cannabis; to provide for the distribution of tax revenue; to prohibit possession of an open container of cannabis in a motor vehicle; to provide for the applicability of the Nebraska Clean Indoor (Air) Act and the Nebraska Pure Food Act; to remove medical cannabis

from the marijuana and controlled substances tax; to provide for unmarked vehicles; to eliminate obsolete provisions; and to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 28-463, 28-464, 28-465, 28-466, 28-467, 28-468 and 28-469, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 2 and 6, Initiative Law 2024, Number 438; and to declare an emergency. LB678, introduced by Senator Hardin. A bill for an act relating to appropriations; to state intent regarding appropriations to the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges; and to declare an emergency. LB679, introduced by Senator Ballard. A bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-1909, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 77-1802, 77-1807, 77-1818 and 77-1837, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for negotiated sales of multiple parcels of real property for delinquent taxes by a county board; to change notice provisions relating to the issuance of a tax certificate; to change provisions relating to the award of attorney fees and foreclosure proceedings; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB680, introduced by the Education Committee. A bill for an act relating to educational service units; to amend Section 79-1204, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the role and mission of educational service units; and to repeal the original sections. LB681, introduced by the Education Committee. A bill for an act relating to postsecondary education; to amend Section 85-931, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the definition of graduate degree programs; and to repeal the original section. LB682, introduced by the Education Committee. A bill for an act relating to education; to amend Section 79-770, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to update terminology related to an individualized education program for a student for provisions regarding a certificate of attendance at a school district or a participation in high school graduation; and to repeal the original section. LB683, introduced by Senator Raybould and Clouse. A bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-1315, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 77-1601, 77-1632 and 77-1776, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the duties of the county assessor regarding notification of real property assessments; to eliminate and change provisions of the Property Tax Request Act; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Sections 77-1630, 77-1631, 77-1633, and 77-1634, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. LB684, introduced by Senator

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office

Floor Debate January 22, 2025

Rough Draft

Bostar, Ballard, Guereca, Hallstrom, Ibach, Kauth, Prokop, and Riepe. A bill for an act relating to probation; to amend Sections 25-2407, 29-2248, 29-2252.01, 29-2253, 29-2260.01, 29-2260.02, 29-2270, 29-2271, 29-2272, 29-2273, 43-260, 43-290.01, 43-297.01, 43-12 [SIC-- 43-412], 43-1304, 43-1309, 43-1503, 43-4101, 43-4102, 41-- 43-4304, 43-4314, 43-4316, 43-4319, 43-4320, 43-4321, 43-4324, 43-4326, 50-1203, 68-1732, 79-303.01 and 79-2121, 81-1401, 81-1427 and 83-1216, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-726, 29-2246, 29-2257, 29-2258, 29-2292, 29-4803, 43-2403 [SIC-- 43-247.03], 43-250, 43-254, 43-258, 43-260.01, 43-281, 43-286, 43-286.01, 43-2,108, 43-2,108.05, 43-2,113, 43-425, 43-1302, 43-1303, 43-1311.03, 43-2404.01, 43-2404.02, 43-2411, 43-2412, 43-4203, 43-4206, 43-4318, 43-4327, 43-4328, 43-4331 and 43-4703, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Juvenile Probation Administration Act; to transfer juvenile probation functions from the Office of Probation Administration in the judicial branch to the Juvenile Probation Agency in the executive branch; to eliminate the following terminated entities: the Children and Juveniles Data Feasibility Study Advisory Group, a child welfare practice model working group, and a child welfare strategic leadership group; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; and to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal Section 43-4307.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 43-1306, 43-4411, 43-4412, 43-4413, 43-4414, 43-4415, and 43-1416 [SIC-- 43-4416], Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. LB685, introduced by Senator Lonowski, Ibach, Quick, and Sorrentino. A bill for an act relating to schools; to amend Section 79-2,144, 79-3108, 79-3109, and 84-612, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require each approved or accredited public, private, denominational or parochial school to install a secure master key box as prescribed; to provide powers and duties to the state school security director; to change provisions relating to the grant program for security-related infrastructure projects and the School Safety and Security Fund; to provide for the transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections. LB686, introduced by Senator Lonowski, Senator Holdcroft, and Strommen. A bill for an act relating to firearms; to define terms; to prohibit governmental entities and officials from keeping certain laws relating to the ownership of firearms; to prohibit using merchant category codes to distinguish firearm retailers from other retailers; and to provide a duty, penalty, and defense. LB687, introduced by Senator Lonowski and Senator Holdcroft, Lippincott, and Strommen. A

bill for an act relating to government contracting; to adopt the new Firearm Industry Nondiscrimination Act. LB688, introduced by Senator Lonowski, Clouse, Holdcroft, and Juarez. A bill for an act relating to electronic nicotine delivery systems; to prohibit advertising of electronic nicotine delivery systems; and to define a term. LB689, introduced by Senator Lonowski, Guereca, Ibach, Murman, Quick, Sorrentino and Storm. A bill for an act relating to retirement; to amend Sections 79-930 and 79-992, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to redefine terms under the School Employees Retirement Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act; and to repeal the original section. LB690, introduced by Senator Lonowski, Senator Murman, and Senator Quick. A bill relating-- a bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend Sections 23-187, 60-103, 60-123, 60-135.01, 60-153, 60-305, 60-339, 60-358.01, 60-3,143, 60-3,187, 60-3,190, 60-471, 60-4,114, 60-4,123, 60-4,123.1 [SIC-- 60-4,123.01], 60-6,252, Section 60-6,266, 60-6,270, 60-6,235 [SIC-- 60-6,355] and 60-6,356, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 60-3,100, 60-3,104, 60-3,135.01, 60-3,221, 60-426 [SIC-- 60-462], 60-463, 60-4,124, 60-501, 60-601, 60-605, 60-6,279 and 77-27,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to authorize county boards to regulate the operation of certain all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles; to define and redefine terms; to change provisions of the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act relating to all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles; to provide for registration fees and taxes for certain all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles under the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Registration Act; to change provisions in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act; to change certain safety provisions and authorize the operation of certain all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles on certain highways as prescribed under the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

ARCH: Colleagues, there's some questions. We are-- we have four members in the queue to discuss. There have been some discussions of some amendments as well on this. And so, we have quite a stack of new bills to read. I know that you have commitments at noon, and we have hearings that are beginning at 1:30. So, my intention is to read the remaining bills and adjourn at that point, and we will pick this debate up tomorrow morning. Thank you. Last call for bill

introductions. If there are any, please get them up here so they can be read in. Mr. Clerk, for new bills.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. New bills. LB691, introduced by Senator Murman and others. A bill for an act relating to schools; to require school districts and governing boards of certain approved and accredited private, denominational, and parochial schools to display the Ten Commandments in school buildings as prescribed; and to provide powers and duties to State Board of Education. LB692, introduced by Senator Murman. It's a bill for an act relating to the School District Property Tax Limitation Act; to amend Sections 79-3403 and 79-3406, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to the calculation property tax request authority and the carrying forward of unused property tax request authority; and repeal the original section. LB693, introduced by Senator McKeon. It's a bill for an act relating to the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act; to amend Section 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide that it is a deceptive trade practice to receive compensation for engaging certain conduct relating to veterans benefits matters; to define terms; repeal the original section. LB694, introduced by Senator Guereca. It's a bill-- and others. It's a bill for an act relating to discrimination; to amend Sections 18-1724, 20-113, 20-132, 20-134, 20-139, 20-317, 20-318, 20-320, 20-321, 20-322, 20-325, 23-2525, 23-2531, 23-2541, 29-401, 45-1056, 48-215, 48-628.13, 48-1101, 48-1104, 48-1105, 48-1106, 48-1107, 48-1108, 48-1111, 48-1113, 48-1115, 48-1117, 48-1119, 48-1122, 48-1124, 48-1125, 49-801, 51-211, 58-216, 58-808, 58-809, 58-810, 68-1605, 75-30-- 325, 76-1495, and 81-885.24, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 25-1645, 32-221, 32-230, 39-210 and 45-1303, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to prohibit discrimination based upon military or veteran status as prescribed; to transfer provisions; to define terms; to harmonize provisions; and repeal the original section. LB645 [SIC-- LB695], introduced by Senator Dover. It's a bill for an act relating to natural resources; to state findings; require that the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District to construct a dam, secure funding, and engage in flood control measures. LB696, introduced by Senator Raybould. It's a bill for an act relating to the Professional Landscape Architects Act; to amend Section 81-8,184, 81-8,192, 81-8,196, 81-8,199, 81-8,200, 81-8,206 81-8,208, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; change provisions and eliminate provisions relating to the State Board of Landscape Architects, the

complete roster of professional landscape architects, applications for licensure, certificates of registration, certificates of licensure, and disciplinary actions; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB697, introduced by Senator Strommen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to the Pharmacy Practice Act; to amend Sections 38-2849, 38-2884, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 38-2867.01, Reissue by-- Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change requirements of the Board of Pharmacy; to change requirements relating to compounding and delegated dispensing permits; and repeal the original section. LB698, introduced by Senator Strommen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act; to amend Section 2 and 8, Initiative Law 2024, Number 436; to redefine terms; change provisions relating to enforcement; repeal the original section. LB699, introduced by Senator Strommen and others. It's a bill for an act relating to the Imagine Nebraska Act; to amend Section 77-6831, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to certain sales and use tax incentives; and to repeal the original section LB700, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill for an act relating to juveniles; to amend Section 28-105.02, 29-401, 43-248.01, 43-249, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 28-105.01, 29-2204, 43-245, 43-250, 43-253, 43-2,129, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to require confidentiality for criminal prosecutions of minors tried as adults and certain adjunct-- "adjunctions" under the Nebraska Juvenile Code; to change provisions relating to sentences for crimes committed by persons under 22 years of age; to extend jurisdiction for the Nebraska Juvenile Code to 26 years of age; to provide requirements for custodial interrogations of juveniles and young adults; define terms; prohibit the use of certain statements in court proceedings as prescribed; provide for using and reimbursing day reporting and evening reporting centers for juveniles; prohibit sending juveniles out of state prescribed; eliminate obsolete provisions; harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB701, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill for an act relating to public assistance; to amend Section 68-901, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to state legislative intent; to provide for reimbursement of doula services as prescribed; establish a work group; define a term; repeal the original section. LB702, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill for an act relating to the economic-- relating to economic development; to adopt the Neighborhood Empowerment Act. LB703, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill

for an act relating to the Commission on African American Affairs; to amend Section 81-2604, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for an exchange program; to state intent regarding appropriations; repeal the original section. LB704, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill for an act relating to child support; to amend Section 43-512.13, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Section 43-512.12, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to the review and modification of incarcerated individuals' child support order; to harmonize provisions; repeal the original section. LB705, introduced by Senator McKinney. It's a bill for an act relating to cannabis; to amend Sections 28-439, 53-105, 53-106, 53-110, 53-111, 60-6,1-- 6,211.08, 72-27,148 [SIC-- 77-2701.48], 77-2704.09, 77-60-- 4303, 81-2,239, 81-2,263 and 81-1021, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Section 28-416, 71-5727, 77-27,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, Sections 1, 2, and 3, Initiative Law 2024, Number 437, Section 1, 3, 4 and 5, Initiative Law 2024, Number 438; to change provisions of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act and Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act; to adopt the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Justice Act and the Cannabis Conviction Clean Slate Act; change provisions relating to controlled substances and drug paraphernalia, and the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission and its commissioners, executive directors and employees; to define terms; to impose a special sales and use tax on sales of medical cannabis; to provide for the distribution of tax revenues; to prohibit possession of an open container of cannabis in a motor vehicle; provide for the applicability of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act and the Nebraska Pure Food Act; to remove medical cannabis from the Marijuana Controlled Substance Act [SIC]; to provide for unmarked vehicles; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provision; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal section 28-463, 28-466 [SIC-- 28-464] 28-465, 28-466, 28-467, 28-468 and 28-469, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and Sections 2 and 6, Initiative Law 2024, Number 438; and declare an emergency. LB706 introduced by Senator Spivey. It's a bill for an act relating to law enforcement; to amend section 81-1403, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define terms; require that APS social workers accompany law enforcement officers as prescribed; provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services, the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and law enforcement agencies; to provide for sanctions; to provide for discipline of law enforcement officers; and

to repeal the original section. LB707, introduced by Senator von Gillern. It's a bill for an act relating to the Good Life Transformational Projects Act; to amend Section 77-4405, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to project eligibility; and repeal the original section. LB708, introduced by Senator Ibach. It's a bill for an act relating to community colleges; to amend section 85-1504, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change boundaries of certain community college areas; and repeal the original section. LB709, introduced by Senator Bostar. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; to amend Section 77-2715.07, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to adopt the Adoption Tax Credit Act; harmonize provisions; and repeal the original section. LB710, introduced by Senator Bostar. It's a bill for an act relating to revenue and taxation; amend Section 77-2715.07, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to increase the earned income tax credit as prescribed; and repeal the original section. LB711, introduced by Senator Hunt. It's a bill for an act relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act; to amend Sections 79-1007.11, 79-1007.21, 79-1022, 79-1022.02, 79-1023, 79-1027, 79-1031.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change a provision relating to the new school adjustment and certification dates; harmonize provisions; repeal the original section; declare an emergency. LB712, introduced by Senator Hugh [SIC]. It's a bill for an act relating to the Tobacco Products Tax Act; to amend Section 77-4008, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change the tax rate on sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems; repeal the original section. LB713, introduced by Senator Ballard. It's a bill for an act relating to the School Employees Retirement Act; to amend Section 79-902, 79-930, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; eliminate definition of prior service; harmonize provisions; and repeal the original section. LB714, introduced by Senator Clements. It's a bill for an act relating to motor vehicles; to amend section 60-3,186, 60-3,187, 60-3,190, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change percentage of fees retained by a county treasurer; change and provide motor vehicle tax schedules, motor vehicle fees; to provide an operative date; and repeal the original section. Legislative Bill--

ARCH: Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President. Additional items. New bill. LB715, introduced by Senator Hunt. It's a bill for an act relating to-- excuse me, introduced by Senator Hunt and Bostar. It's a bill for an act relating

to insurance; to require coverage for pre-exposed proc-- prophylactics [SIC] medication as prescribed. Legislative-- LR27CA, introduced by Senator Hunt. Constitutional amendment to change the limit on legislative terms from two sen-- two consecutive terms to three consecutive terms. LR28CA, introduced by Senator Hansen. It's a constitutional amendment to eliminate provisions creating the Board of Educational Lands and Funds and providing for management of certain land owned by the state. LR29, introduced by Senators Holdcroft Ballard, Clements and Hallstrom, naming the prison facility. That will be-- in addition, a letter from the Speaker pursuant to Rule 4, Section 8, referring LB20-- or, excuse me, LR29 to the Reference Committee for referral to the appropriate standing committee for the purposes of conducting a hearing. Amendments to be printed: Senator DeKay to LB43. Senator Hunt to-- motions to be printed to LB512. Name adds: Senator Hallstrom, name added to LB13; Fredrickson, LB61; Dungan, LB65; Hallstrom, LB115; Conrad, LB400, LB408, LB417, LB421, LB424, LB425; McKinney, LB48-- LB448; Wordekemper, LB569; Brandt, LR20CA; Conrad, LR20CA; Hardin, LR21. Notice that the Building and Maintenance Committee will meet under the south balcony tomorrow morning at 9:30. Building and Maintenance, Thursday morning under the South Balcony at 9:30 a.m. Referencing Committee will meet upon adjournment in Room 2102. Finally, Mr. President, a priority motion. Senator Spivey would move to adjourn the body until Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

ARCH: Colleagues, you've heard the motion to adjourn. All those in favor, say aye. All those opposed, nay. We are adjourned.