

April 30, 1973

(Start Belt #8)

SPEAKER: Legislature will please come to order. If you'll record your presence. Have you all recorded your presence? Have you all recorded your presence? Clerk will record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: The Legislature is in session. The Chair wishes to recognize 63 Sixth Grade students from the Cedar Elementary and Pickrell Elementary Schools from Beatrice, teachers Mrs. Frances Hoffhine, Mrs. Angeline Schmid, Mr. Reny Tesar, Mr. Donald Loy. They are from Senator Fred Carsten's district in the North Balcony. We are very glad to have you here today. We're still on the subject of resolutions. Are there any more resolutions?

CLERK: None, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Any introduction of bills?

CLERK: Yes. Mr. President, I move for the introduction, correction, I move for the suspension of the rules and the introduction of the attached bill. Signed Senator Chambers. (read).

SPEAKER: As the Chair understands this bill, there can be one vote in this case the way the motion is phrased. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Presiding Officer and Members of the Legislature. There is a statement of intent on your desks but in case that it got lost among the mountains of papers that were put here after our recess, I'll read the intent. The intent of this bill is to repeal the Governor's budget bill which was passed without amendment by the Legislature, First Session, 1973. After repeal there is time to devise a more realistic budget. In addition, various important spending measures may be considered on final reading. Now we all know before the action that was taken saying that no bills with fiscal impact would be read on final reading, some had already been passed this session that had fiscal impact so the notion of fairness has been done away with even with reference to various bills that the various Senators have introduced. Now LB 259 was passed intact as certain members of the Legislature wanted to see happen so the man of power demonstrated his power, the bill was passed, the Governor signed it. I did come down here and ask him not to sign the bill and the rationale was that since it did not contain the amendments he wanted nor those that the Legislature had offered, it was in fact, nobody's budget bill and he did not have to sign it. If he could not bring himself to veto it, he should have let it become law without his signature by way of letting the public know that it was nobody's budget bill. As we all know, none of those arguments worked, the bill was passed as introduced originally by the Governor and it now represents the only law as far as the budget, for the coming fiscal year is concerned. If you accept the introduction of this bill, the introduction of the bill is not the same as passing it. It offers a vehicle for anything that may need to be done in the immediate future with reference to a new budget. If the bill should be allowed to be introduced, if it should pass and the budget be repealed, then LB 259 in its original form could form the basis for another budget bill. If it was felt that the amendments of the Governor had merit, they could be added to it, those amendments offered by the budget committee after many months of hard work could be considered and incorporated into the bill and rather have-- than having a bill with amendments, all of these elements