

Transcript Prepared By the Clerk of the Legislature  
Transcriber's Office

Floor Debate  
November 17, 2008

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[LB1 LB3]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY PRESIDING []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the third day, One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session. Our chaplain for today is Senator Dierks. Would you all please rise. []

SENATOR DIERKS: (Prayer offered.) []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Dierks. I call to order the third day of the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session. Senators, please record your presence by roll call. Please record, Mr. Clerk. []

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Are there corrections for the Journal? []

CLERK: I have no corrections. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Messages, reports, or announcements? []

CLERK: Mr. President, an Attorney General's Opinion (re LB3) addressed to Senator Flood to be inserted in the Legislative Journal; an amendment to be printed to LB1 by Senator Langemeier. That's all that I have at this time. (Legislative Journal pages 43-50.) [LB3 LB1]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will move to the first item on the agenda, introduction of new bills. Mr. Clerk, do you have items for introduction? []

CLERK: At this time, Mr. President, I have no new bills for introduction. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senators, we will stand at ease while we wait for introduction of new bills. Senator Chambers, you are recognized for a point of order. []

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to take a point of personal privilege. Saturday, former State Senator Bernice Labeledz died. She served during the years of 1976 to 1992. Senator Labeledz and I had a maybe-love/maybe-not relationship. We had collisions; we had collaboration, Senator Aguilar. Our collisions were Titanic; our collaborations were virtually divine. When she and I collaborated on something, it was about a cinch to go through. She died of congestive heart failure, which proves something that I can now say. I used to wonder if

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both of us was without a heart. This proves she had what I still don't have and that is a heart, so you all may not be rid of me ever. What I found out was Senator Labeledz's age, which was 89. When I was a youngster like the rest of you, 89 seemed like a long way off. But now that if I sneeze I'll be right there, it doesn't seem a long way off at all. I would have ordinarily said she had a long life. She had a relatively long life, but in these days 89 is not that long a period of time. And in keeping with her character, she left here when she did because her husband was in failing health and she had a set of priorities, and one of them was to take care of that person to whom she had promised to become one flesh. Some people might see her as the steel fist in the velvet glove, but I prefer the imagery of the peach. On issues that she felt strongly about, she was as hard and unyielding as the stone in the center of that peach. But, Senator Schimek, on other issues she was as soft, tender, and sweet as the flesh of that peach. Unfortunately, I probably got the stone more than I did the flesh. They had called Senator Labeledz "Mamma Labeledz" because, as the paper pointed out, she had a maternal warmth about her, but there was something else. She could be Mamma when the circumstances called for such, or she could be Medusa, who with a look could turn you to stone. Since brevity is the soul of wit and I would like to be known as a witty person, I have completed what I had to say. But I do want to extend to her family, on behalf of the Legislature, our sincere condolences. And that's all I have. Thank you, Mr. President. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Erdman, you are recognized for a point of personal privilege. []

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, it's my honor to introduce to you my son, Micah Philip. He's here with our daughter Grace and my wife Cortney, so if you get a chance, you can come meet Micah. Thank you. (Applause) []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Erdman, and congratulations. Speaker Flood, you are recognized for an announcement. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, a quick couple of notes here regarding our scheduling. Tomorrow we will start at 9:00 a.m. in the morning and we will take up General File debate of LB2. That's the appropriations bill to cover the expenses of this special session and the safe haven measure advanced out of the Judiciary Committee. I will be waiting to officially put out tomorrow's agenda until the Judiciary Committee has voted out a bill and, therefore, wanted to let you know via this announcement of my plans tomorrow. I would encourage you to stay close to your Internet tonight so that you can see it electronically once it's been posted, but I will have to wait until the Judiciary Committee does take action and notifies my office of the action that they've taken before I can schedule for tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. President. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Speaker Flood. Mr. Clerk, have there been bills introduced? []

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CLERK: Mr. President, I have no bills for introduction at this time. I do have a motion on the desk. Senator Flood would move to adjourn until Tuesday morning, November 18, at 9:00 a.m. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: You have heard the motion to adjourn until Tuesday, November 18, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. All those in favor say aye. Opposed, nay. We are adjourned. []