

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

Floor Debate  
November 21, 2008

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[LB1 LB2 LR4 LR5 LR6 LR8 LR9 LR10 LR11]

SPEAKER FLOOD PRESIDING []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the seventh day of the special session of the One Hundredth...First Special Session of the One Hundredth Legislature. Our chaplain for today is Senator Kruse. Please rise. []

SENATOR KRUSE: (Prayer offered.) []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Members, please check in. Mr. Clerk, please record. []

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

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal? []

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you. Are there any messages, reports, or announcements? []

CLERK: I have but one item. A report, series of reports received in the Clerk's Office from the Information Technology Commission, the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, the Power Review Board, the Legislative Research Division, and the Department of Roads. Those will be on file and available for member review in the Clerk's Office. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 83-84.) []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We now proceed to the first item on the agenda, it is Final Reading. Members, please take your seats. Mr. Clerk, the first bill is LB1E. [LB1]

CLERK: (Read LB1 on Final Reading.) [LB1]

SPEAKER FLOOD: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB1E pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all those voted who wish to? Record please, Mr. Clerk. [LB1]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 84.) 43 ayes, 5 nays, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President. [LB1]

SPEAKER FLOOD: LB1E passes with the emergency clause attached. Mr. Clerk,

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LB2E. [LB1 LB2]

CLERK: (Read LB2 on Final Reading.) [LB2]

SPEAKER FLOOD: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB2E pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record. [LB2]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 85.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 excused and not voting. [LB2]

SPEAKER FLOOD: LB2E passes with the emergency clause attached. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LB1 and LB2. Mr. Clerk, we now move to legislative resolutions. [LB1 LB2]

CLERK: Mr. President, a series of resolutions. LR4 offered by Senator Stuthman. [LR4]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Senator Stuthman, you are recognized to open on LR4. [LR4]

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you. [LR4]

SPEAKER FLOOD: You may begin, Senator Stuthman. [LR4]

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. LR4 congratulates the Columbus Scotus Central Catholic High School on their volleyball team, for winning the Class C-1 state championship. And we appreciate the fact that this parochial school has gained the state championship. And I would appreciate your support on this. Thank you. [LR4]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Are there any senators wishing to speak? Seeing none, we'll proceed to LR5. And by way of reference, we are adding LR11 to today's agenda as it was filed after the printing of this agenda that was printed yesterday. We will take up LR11 after an appropriate motion to suspend the rules. Continuing on with discussion of legislative resolutions, Senator Harms, you're recognized to open on LR5. [LR4 LR5]

SENATOR HARMS: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. I would ask that you support this resolution. It's not often the further west you go in rural America that you are successful enough to be able to compete and win a girls' cross country team. So it's an honor for this school and for the girls who participated, so I would appreciate your support. Thank you. [LR5]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Harms. You've heard the opening on LR5. There are no other senators wishing to speak. We will now proceed to LR6. [LR5 LR6]

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SENATOR HARMS: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. Again, this is an honor for our school district to win the golf tournament. As I said before previously on LR5, it's a rare moment when we have this kind of success in this great state. So I would appreciate it if you would support these young people. Thank you. [LR5 LR6]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Harms. You've heard the opening on LR6. There are no other senators wishing to speak. We now proceed to LR8. Senator Gay, you are recognized to open. [LR6 LR8]

SENATOR GAY: Thank you, Mr. President. This resolution is congratulating Papillion La Vista High School for its state volleyball championship. It was a...mostly a win-win situation. They beat Papillion La Vista South, so we were a winner either way. And this is to congratulate the girls' volleyball team. [LR8]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Gay. You've heard the opening on LR8. There are no other senators wishing to speak. We will now proceed to LR9. Senator Christensen, you are recognized. [LR8 LR9]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to congratulate Dallas McMurtrey achieving the Eagle Scout award. It's an honor to see our young people overachieve and go forth and make names for themselves and achieve these high honors. And it's a reward to the community and to the district, the people that are stepping forth like this. So thank you. [LR9]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Christensen. You've heard the opening on LR9. There are no senators wishing to speak. We now move to LR10. Senator Dierks, you are recognized. [LR9 LR10]

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like also to take the opportunity recognize the Ewing girls' volleyball team. They won their first state championship. They had been here several years but never quite got the final award. So today we're going to give them that honor. I thank you very much. [LR10]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. At this time we will now vote on whether or not to pass LR4, LR5, LR6, LR8, LR9 and LR10. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all those voted who wish to? Mr. Clerk, please record. [LR4 LR5 LR6 LR8 LR9 LR10]

CLERK: 44 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of those resolutions. [LR4 LR5 LR6 LR8 LR9 LR10]

SPEAKER FLOOD: LR4, LR5, LR6, LR8, LR9 and LR10 are adopted. Mr. Clerk, we

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now proceed to LR11, a resolution which was introduced by Senator Stuthman. The first vote is to suspend the rules and allow Senator Stuthman's resolution to be considered by the Legislature this morning. This does require 30 votes. Please record your votes. Mr. Clerk, please record. [LR4 LR5 LR6 LR8 LR9 LR10 LR11]

CLERK: 41 ayes, 0 nays to suspend the rule to permit consideration of LR11. [LR11]

SPEAKER FLOOD: The rules have been suspended. Senator Stuthman, you are recognized to open on LR11. [LR11]

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. And the reason for this is the fact that the Class D-1 state championship eight-man football was held last evening. And Howells did win that D-1 championship. And since they won it last night and it is the proper time to give them the congratulations for winning that football championship. So I thank you for the support to suspend the rules because I think that is very important that we can get this taken care of at this time. So again, I would like to congratulate Howells on their Class D-1 state football championship. Thank you. [LR11]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Dierks, you are recognized. [LR11]

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that I'm a little remiss. I should have had our resolution in to support the Ewing team who won their state championship yesterday. And I didn't think I had time to do that, so I'll just take this opportunity to refresh the body's memory that Ewing boys have won their state football championship as well as the girls who won the volleyball championship. And I think we're going to win both the girls' and boys' basketball tournaments too. So if you're betting people, why, come around and visit with me. Thank you. [LR11]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. No other speakers have been identified. Senator Stuthman, would you like to close on LR11? Senator Stuthman waives closing. The question before the body is, should LR11 be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record. [LR11]

CLERK: 44 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of LR11. [LR11]

SPEAKER FLOOD: LR11 is adopted. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR4, LR5, LR6, LR8, LR9, LR10 and LR11. Mr. Clerk, we now proceed to unfinished business on the President's desk. [LR4 LR5 LR6 LR8 LR9 LR10 LR11]

CLERK: Mr. President, I have but one item. Bills read on Final Reading this morning were presented to the Governor at 9:18 a.m. That's all that I have. (Re LB1 and LB2,

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Legislative Journal page 86.) [LB1 LB2]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I'd like to take this opportunity at this time to ask the Legislature to recognize the four years of service from the District 3 Senator, Gail Kopplin of Gretna. Senator Kopplin, you have been an inspiration. Thank you for everything you've done. (Applause) Senator Kopplin, you are recognized, I assume this is for a point of personal privilege. []

SENATOR KOPPLIN: I just want to say thank you for the past four years. You know, they have been enjoyable. We've done some tough things. We've gotten through some tough things, and there's still tough things ahead. I wish my successor the very best of luck. Mary Lou and I are nearly 70 years old. We've spent almost 50 years in public service of some kind or another. We want to end our remaining years simply enjoying life. However, that's not for us to say. We will take whatever path the Lord sets for us. My support of the poor will not end. I wasn't going to speak this morning, but I couldn't resist having one final word: poppycock. (Laughter, Applause) []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Mr. Clerk, other items on the desk? []

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Engel would like to remind the members that the Legislative Council meeting will begin one hour following adjournment in Room 1510; one hour following adjournment in Room 1510. That's all. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Janssen, you are recognized for a motion. []

SENATOR JANSSEN: Mr. President, I move that the Journal for the seventh day, as prepared by the Clerk of the Legislature, be approved. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Members, you've heard the motion from Senator Janssen. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. The motion is adopted. Senator Raikes, you are recognized. Strike that. (Laughter) Senator Raikes, thank you for your service. Please have a seat. (Laughter) Senator Kopplin, you are recognized for a motion. []

SENATOR KOPPLIN: Mr. President, I move that the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session of the Nebraska Legislature, having finished all business before it now, at whatever time it is, adjourn sine die. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Members, you've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. The ayes have it, we are adjourned sine die. (Gavel) []