

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

Floor Debate
November 04, 2011

[LR2 LR12 LR13]

SPEAKER FLOOD PRESIDING

SPEAKER FLOOD: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the fourth day of the One Hundred Second Legislature, First Special Session. Our chaplain for today is Senator Wallman. Please rise.

SENATOR WALLMAN: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Wallman. I call to order the fourth day of the One Hundred Second Legislature, First Special Session. Senators, please record your presence. 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: There is, Mr. President. (Read corrections, Legislative Journal page 37.)

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, I have received a Reference report from the Reference Committee, signed by Senator Wightman.

SPEAKER FLOOD: (Gavel)

CLERK: LR5 and LR6 have been referred to the Natural Resources Committee for a public hearing; LR8 to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs; and LR10 to the Retirement Systems Committee. I have confirmation reports, three different reports from Natural Resources, those signed by Senator Langemeier; I have a fourth confirmation report from Judiciary, that's offered by Senator Ashford, as Chair of the committee. Hearing notices: Judiciary Committee gives notice of hearing on Tuesday, November 8, for LB3; Natural Resources on that same day, Tuesday, November 8, for LB4. I also have hearing notices from Natural Resources with respect to LB5 and LB6 scheduled for Wednesday, November 9. Mr. President, per statute I have the three additional reports that have been received in the Clerk's Office from the Auditor of Public Accounts, the Public Service Commission, Department of Revenue. Those will be on file in the office, available for member review. And finally, the lobby report for this week, Mr. President, required by statute to be inserted. That's all that I have. (Legislative Journal pages 37-41.)

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SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We now proceed to the first item on the agenda, legislative confirmation reports.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have three reports. Senator Adams, as Chair of Education, would report, and the first report on the appointment of Frederik Ohles to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission. (Legislative Journal page 32.)

SPEAKER FLOOD: Senator Adams, as Chair of the Education Committee, you're recognized to open on your confirmation report.

SENATOR ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, yesterday the Education Committee held public hearings on six appointees to various commissions that are related to the jurisdiction of education, and we're going to take them in groups. This first one is to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission, and the appointment is of Dr. Frederik Ohles. It is a new appointment to the Telecommunications Commission. Dr. Ohles is the president of Nebraska Wesleyan University. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER FLOOD: Members, you've heard the opening on the first confirmation report from the Education Committee. There are no members wishing to speak. (Gavel) Senator Adams, you're recognized to close. Senator Adams waives his ability to close. The question before the body is, shall the confirmation report be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all those voted who care to? Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: (Record vote, Legislative Journal page 41.) 40 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the first confirmation report.

SPEAKER FLOOD: The first confirmation report is adopted. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: I have a second report reporting on two appointments to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. That's also offered by the Education Committee, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 32.)

SPEAKER FLOOD: Senator Adams, as Chair of the Education Committee, you're recognized to open on the confirmation report.

SENATOR ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. President. We have two appointments to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. The first one is a reappointment of Mr. Martin Demuth. He's from Hastings, Nebraska. He is an insurance agent. The second is a new appointment to Glenn Wilson. Glenn Wilson is retired, he lives in Grand Island, and his most recent service was actually eight years as Commerce Commissioner for the state of Minnesota. Thank you, Mr. President.

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SPEAKER FLOOD: Members, you've heard the opening on the second confirmation report. Are there members wishing to speak? Seeing no members in the queue, Senator Adams, you're recognized to close. Senator Adams waives his opportunity. The question before the body is, shall the second confirmation report from the Education Committee be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all those voted who care to? Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: (Record vote, Legislative Journal page 42.) 40 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the second confirmation report.

SPEAKER FLOOD: The second confirmation report is adopted. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the final report from the Education Committee involves three appointments to the Technical Advisory Committee for Statewide Assessment. (Legislative Journal page 33.)

SPEAKER FLOOD: Senator Adams, as Chair of the Education Committee, you're recognized to open on your committee's third legislative confirmation report.

SENATOR ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. President. This is the last confirmation report from the Education Committee. This is to the Technical Advisory Committee for Statewide Assessment. There are three appointments. All three are reappointments to that committee. The first is Linda Poole. Linda Poole is an elementary teacher in the Papillion-La Vista school system. The second is Brian Gong. Brian is from Dover, New Hampshire, and he is the executive director of the National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment. The third and the final appointee is Richard Sawyer. Richard Sawyer lives in Iowa City, Iowa, and he's the senior research scientist for the ACT group. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Adams. Members, you've heard the opening on the third Education Committee legislative confirmation report. There are no members wishing to speak. Senator Adams, you're recognized to close. Senator Adams waives his opportunity. The question before the body is, shall the third Education Committee legislative confirmation report be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all those voted who care to? Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: (Record vote, Legislative Journal pages 42-43.) 40 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the third confirmation report.

SPEAKER FLOOD: The third legislative confirmation report from the Education Committee is adopted. Members, we do have a floor announcement pertaining to scheduling of next week. We will be convening each morning at 9:00 a.m. during the

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remainder of the special session unless otherwise announced. We will meet next week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. We will be observing Veterans Day and will not meet a week from today, next Friday. We now stand at ease. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. A hearing notice from Retirement Systems Committee scheduled for Wednesday, November 9. I have confirmation reports from the General Affairs Committee, those signed by Senator Karpisek, as Chair of the committee. New resolutions: LR12 offered by Senator Brasch and others having the Legislature recognize the extensive damage to both people and property caused by the 2011 flooding of the Missouri River. Pursuant to that introduction, a communication from the Speaker directing LR12 be referred to committee for public hearing purposes. LR13 is Senator Bloomfield, and that will be laid over. Mr. President, name adds: Senators Bloomfield, Hadley, Howard, Ashford, and Hansen would like to add their name to LR2. (Legislative Journal pages 43-46.) [LR12 LR13 LR2]

And I do have a priority motion, Mr. President. Senator Nordquist would move to adjourn the body until Monday morning, November 7, at 9:00 a.m.

SPEAKER FLOOD: Members, you've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. We are adjourned. (Gavel)