

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

Floor Debate
February 27, 2015

[LB39 LB40 LB41 LB42 LB43 LB52 LB65 LB87 LB90 LB91 LB92 LB93 LB94 LB95 LB99
LB100 LB107 LB109 LB116 LB118 LB126 LB142 LB142A LB146 LB149 LB150 LB151
LB157 LB159 LB168 LB170 LB171 LB176 LB179 LB194 LB198 LB219 LB220 LB220A
LB241 LB247 LB252 LB260 LB261 LB266 LB268 LB269 LB271 LB279 LB286 LB301
LB305 LB312 LB314 LB329 LB430 LB439 LB599 LB627 LR32 LR33 LR34 LR87 LR88
LR89 LR90]

SPEAKER HADLEY PRESIDING

SPEAKER HADLEY: GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WELCOME TO THE GEORGE W. NORRIS CHAMBER FOR THE THIRTY-FIFTH DAY OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION. OUR CHAPLAIN FOR TODAY IS SENATOR JOHNSON. PLEASE RISE.

SENATOR JOHNSON: (PRAYER OFFERED.)

SPEAKER HADLEY: THANK YOU. I CALL TO ORDER THE THIRTY-FIFTH DAY OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION. SENATORS, PLEASE RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. ROLL CALL. MR. CLERK, PLEASE RECORD.

CLERK: I HAVE A QUORUM PRESENT, MR. PRESIDENT.

SPEAKER HADLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. ARE THERE ANY CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL?

CLERK: I HAVE NO CORRECTIONS.

SPEAKER HADLEY: ARE THERE ANY MESSAGES, REPORTS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS?

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CHAIRED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, REPORTS LB176 TO GENERAL FILE WITH COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS ATTACHED. I HAVE A SERIES OF COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR. (READ RE: LB40, LB41, LB42, LB43, LB65, LB91, LB92, LB93, LB95, LB99, AND LB100.) A SECOND MESSAGE. (READ RE: LB118, LB126, LB149, LB150, LB151, LB157, LB159, LB168, LB170, LB171, LB198, LB219, LB220, LB220A, LB247, AND LB430.) A THIRD MESSAGE. (READ RE LB109.) MR. PRESIDENT, I ALSO HAVE A LOBBY REPORT THIS WEEK AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AGENCY REPORTS

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THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS ON THE LEGISLATIVE WEB SITE. I ALSO HAVE A NEW RESOLUTION: LR87, IT'S OFFERED BY SENATOR SEILER; THAT WILL BE LAID OVER AT THIS TIME. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 651-655.) [LB176 LB40 LB41 LB42 LB43 LB65 LB91 LB92 LB93 LB95 LB99 LB100 LB118 LB126 LB149 LB150 LB151 LB157 LB159 LB168 LB170 LB171 LB198 LB219 LB220 LB220A LB247 LB430 LB109 LR87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE CUPCAKES ARE IN CELEBRATION OF SENATOR BOLZ'S BIRTHDAY. THANKS, SENATOR BOLZ. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) MR. CLERK, WE WILL MOVE TO FINAL READING. MEMBERS SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR SEATS IN PREPARATION FOR FINAL READING. MR. CLERK, THE FIRST BILL IS LB52. [LB52]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE A MOTION. SENATOR CRAWFORD WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT. (FA17, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 655.) [LB52]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CRAWFORD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON YOUR MOTION. [LB52]

SENATOR CRAWFORD: THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER. AND I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH LB52 AND HAVE TOLD SCHEER THAT I WOULD PUT A MOTION ON THE BILL JUST TO HAVE A CHANCE TO RESPOND TO THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE ON LB109. COLLEAGUES, IN FRONT OF YOU IS THE CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNOR RICKETTS REGARDING HIS CONCERNS WITH LB109, AND THEY WERE READ IN EARLIER IN OUR RECORD. AS YOU RECALL, WE PASSED LB109 ON A 49 TO 0 VOTE LAST FRIDAY. AT THE BILL'S HEARING, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES, AND NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGES ALL TESTIFIED IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL, AND NO ONE TESTIFIED IN OPPOSITION TO THE LEGISLATION. LB109 WAS CAREFULLY CRAFTED TO REFER SPECIFICALLY TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS IN THE NEBRASKA LANGUAGE. THE BILL STATES THAT INDIVIDUALS RECOGNIZED AS ELIGIBLE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR G.I. BILL BENEFITS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION IN NEBRASKA. SO NEBRASKA IS RECOGNIZING THESE INDIVIDUALS FOR THIS BENEFIT BECAUSE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS, NOT BECAUSE OF THEIR MARITAL STATUS. SO I RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE WITH THE GOVERNOR THAT LB109 POSES A POTENTIALLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATION. HOWEVER, I ASSURED THE GOVERNOR THAT IF HE SIGNED THE BILL INTO LAW THAT I WOULD WORK WITH HIM TO TRY TO ALLEVIATE HIS CONCERNS, SO LONG AS THE REMEDY STILL PROVIDES TUITION BENEFITS TO ALL WHO ARE COVERED BY LB109 AND LB740

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THAT WE PASSED LAST YEAR. AS A REMINDER, IN JUNE CONGRESS PASSED H.R. 3230. ALL FIVE MEMBERS OF NEBRASKA'S DELEGATION SUPPORTED H.R. 3230. THE BILL WHICH PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNED INTO LAW AUGUST 7, 2014, REQUIRES, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT STATES EXTEND IN-STATE TUITION BENEFITS TO VETERANS WHO HAVE LEFT ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE WITHIN THE PAST THREE YEARS, AS WELL AS THEIR DEPENDENTS. STATES WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WILL HAVE ALL COURSES FOR ALL MONTGOMERY G.I. AND POST-9/11 G.I. BENEFITS DISAPPROVED AT THE STATE'S PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. IN OTHER WORDS, ALL VETERANS WHO ARE RECEIVING MONTGOMERY G.I. OR POST-9/11 G.I. BENEFITS ARE IN JEOPARDY OF LOSING THEIR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS IF OUR STATE DOES NOT COMPLY. AS PASSED, LB109 BRINGS US INTO COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND ENSURES OUR STATE VETERAN STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR HARD-EARNED EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS, WHILE STILL RESPECTING THE NEBRASKA CONSTITUTION. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON GOVERNOR RICKETTS REQUESTED A MEETING WITH ME TO DISCUSS LB109. THE CONCERNS HE RAISED WERE LARGELY AROUND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S DECISION TO RECOGNIZE SAME-SEX SPOUSES AS DEPENDENTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF VETERANS' BENEFITS, INCLUDING EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS. THE VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION CLEARLY EXPLAINED TO OUR OFFICE, AS WELL AS THE PRO STAFF, THAT FAILURE TO EXTEND EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE SAME-SEX SPOUSES WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR ALL OUR STUDENT VETERANS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN ONE OF OUR STATE COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES, WHICH IS OVER 1,500 STUDENTS AT UNL AND UNO ALONE. ALL 50 STATES MUST NOW GRANT IN-STATE TUITION TO RECENTLY SEPARATED VETERANS WHO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS. THIS INCLUDES SEVERAL STATES WITH SIMILAR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND CASES. TEXAS, WHICH PASSED ITS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN IN 2005, WAS THE FIRST OF THE STATES TO FULLY COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR IN-STATE TUITION, INCLUDING SAME-SEX SPOUSES. I APPRECIATE GOVERNOR RICKETTS SIGNING LB109 AND I WILL HONOR THE COMMITMENT I MADE TO THE GOVERNOR YESTERDAY TO WORK WITH HIM TO ENSURE WE COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAW AND, IF POSSIBLE, ADDRESS HIS CONCERNS WITH LB109, WHILE STILL MAKING SURE THAT ALL OUR RECENTLY SEPARATED VETERANS AND SPOUSES RECEIVE IN-STATE TUITION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF LB109. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COME SEE ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS. AND I WOULD LIKE TO WITHDRAW MY MOTION, PLEASE. [LB52 LB109]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: THE MOTION IS WITHDRAWN. WE WILL RETURN TO LB52. MR. CLERK. [LB52]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL. (FA18, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 655.) [LB52]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED ON YOUR MOTION. [LB52]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, I'M PUTTING A MOTION ON EVERY BILL ON FINAL READING, NOT NECESSARILY THAT I HAVE ANY PROBLEM WITH ANY ONE OF THE BILLS. BUT I HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE WAY SOME THINGS ARE BEING DONE AROUND HERE, AND I KNOW THAT I'M GOING TO BE ON THE SHORT END OF THE STICK. BUT I'M GOING TO FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF JOSEPH KENNEDY, THE FATHER OF THE KENNEDY BROTHERS: DON'T GET MAD, GET EVEN. JUST BECAUSE I'M TREMENDOUSLY OUTNUMBERED DOESN'T MEAN I'M GOING TO BECOME A SHRINKING VIOLET, DRY UP, AND BLOW AWAY IN THE FIRST BREEZE THAT COMES. WE PROBABLY ARE ONE-THIRD, A LITTLE BIT MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE WAY THROUGH THIS SESSION. YOU HAVE NOT TALKED ABOUT TAXES. YOU HAVE NOT TALKED ABOUT THE BUDGET. AND THE BUDGET IS THE ONLY THING WE REALLY HAVE TO DO AND THAT CAN BE DONE IN A SPECIAL SESSION IF NECESSARY. I DON'T KNOW--I'M GENUINELY TELLING YOU MY STATE OF MIND AT THIS POINT--I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I WILL TALK ON ANY ONE OF THESE MOTIONS OR IF I WILL TALK ON ALL OF THEM. BUT THE BOY SCOUT MOTTO IS "BE PREPARED," AND THE WAY FOR ME TO FUNCTION AROUND HERE IS TO BE PREPARED TO DO WHATEVER IT IS I THINK OUGHT TO BE DONE ON MY OWN. I WILL NOT COUNT ON ANYBODY TO DO ANYTHING. I WILL NOT ASK ANYBODY TO DO ANYTHING. IF YOUR CONSCIENCE OR WHATEVER LEADS YOU TO ACT PRODS YOU TO ACT IN A CERTAIN WAY, THAT'S THE WAY IT WILL BE. ANY PROPOSITION I OFFER, ANY BILL THAT I INTRODUCE I'M WILLING TO DISCUSS WITH ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO TALK TO ME. BUT WHEN CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS ARE MADE ABOUT MY LEGISLATION BEFORE WE EVEN COME INTO SESSION, THAT IS THE ATTITUDE I'M GOING TO DEEM TO BE THE ONE PREVAILING IN THIS BODY. AND I'M GOING TO RESPOND ACCORDINGLY. I WAS AT A HEARING YESTERDAY ON MY MOUNTAIN LION BILL, AND SO CERTAIN IS THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE COMMITTEE IS NOT GOING TO ADVANCE MY BILL, THEY WERE PATHETIC IN THEIR OPPOSITION. THE DIRECTOR OF GAME AND PARKS CAME THERE LIKE A WHIPPED PUPPY DOG, TAIL DRAGGING, DIDN'T HAVE ANSWERS TO VARIOUS QUESTIONS, AND SAID, WELL, THERE'S SOMEBODY HERE WHO IS A BIOLOGIST WHO CAN PROBABLY ANSWER

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THE QUESTIONS. THEY KNOW IT'S A FOREGONE CONCLUSION. BUT I WANT MY COLLEAGUES TO KNOW THIS, AND I'M GOING TO SHOW AN EXAMPLE OF IT THIS MORNING. I CAN CONTROL THIS SESSION AT ANY POINT THAT I CHOOSE TO DO SO. ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT SEEM TO SOME OF YOU, I HAVE TRIED TO BE COLLEGIAL THIS SESSION. SOME OF YOU KNOW THAT I'VE TALKED TO YOU ON YOUR BILLS, WORKED WITH YOU TO TRY TO DO SOMETHING TO IMPROVE IT, AND THAT'S WHAT I WILL CONTINUE TO DO. BUT BY THE SAME TOKEN, I'M GOING TO LOOK OUT FOR THE INTERESTS THAT I HAVE. WHAT HAS HAPPENED WITH ME ON THESE MOUNTAIN LIONS IS THE CREATION OF A CRUSADE. I NEED TO PROTECT THOSE ANIMALS FROM ERADICATION IN THIS STATE, AND I'M GOING TO DO EVERYTHING THAT I CAN. AND IF IT MEANS SACRIFICING THE SESSION, SO WHAT? I WANT TO KEEP NATURE'S CHILDREN ALIVE IN THIS STATE. I DON'T CARE ABOUT GAME AND PARKS, AND I CERTAINLY DON'T CARE ABOUT CABELA'S. THEY SENT SOME FELLOW HERE, AND SOMEBODY WHO IS INTERESTED IN WHAT THEY CALL BIG GAME HUNTING, TO SAY THAT IT'S NOT FOR POLITICIANS TO MANAGE THESE ANIMALS IN THIS STATE. I POINTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE THAT THOSE ANIMALS ARE A NATURAL RESOURCE, AND I POINTED OUT THAT EVERY PERSON ON THAT COMMITTEE IS A POLITICIAN. FOR THEM TO MAKE THAT STATEMENT SHOWED A TOTAL DISREGARD FOR THE COMMITTEE, A DISRESPECT FOR THEIR INTELLIGENCE, AND IGNORING WHAT THE NAME OF THAT COMMITTEE IS: NATURAL RESOURCES. AND I ASKED RHETORICALLY TO THE COMMITTEE, IF YOU ARE GOING TO SAY THAT THESE HUNTERS WHO RUN GAME AND PARKS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO MANAGE THESE ANIMALS, WHY DON'T YOU STOP BRINGING BILLS ON WATER TO THIS LEGISLATURE AND LET THE IRRIGATORS AND OTHERS WHO MAKE USE OF WATER MANAGE THE WATER? WHY DON'T YOU DO THAT? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO IT. AND YOU THINK NOBODY CARES ABOUT THESE ANIMALS, BUT I DO. MR. DOUGLAS HAD THE NERVE TO SAY NO FORM OF GAME MANAGED BY GAME AND PARKS HAS EVER BECOME ENDANGERED. NO FORM OF GAME THAT THEY MANAGE HAS EVER BEEN COMPLETELY ERADICATED FROM THIS STATE. AND THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE THAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED. HOW IS GAME AND PARKS GOING TO MANAGE THESE ANIMALS THROUGH HUNTING, WHEN MOST OF THE LAND IS PRIVATELY OWNED WHERE THESE ANIMALS ARE AND YOU CANNOT HUNT ON LAND UNLESS THE LANDOWNER SAYS YOU CAN? SO FOR GAME AND PARKS TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY IMPERIALY CAN MANAGE WHAT HAPPENS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, THEY ARE MISTAKEN. THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO REMEMBER WHEN DEER FELL UNDER A BAD DISEASE. AND THERE WAS A DROUGHT AT THE SAME TIME. SO YOU KNOW WHAT DEER WOULD DO? LIKE YOU PREDATORS WOULD DO. HUMAN BEINGS ARE PREDATORS. ANYTHING WHICH IS THIRSTY WILL GO WHERE THE WATER IS. SO THEY CLUSTERED

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AROUND PONDS AND WHEREVER THEY COULD FIND WATER, AND THEY TRANSMITTED THE DISEASE TO EACH OTHER. HAD NOT THE STATE'S DOMINANT PREDATOR NOT BEEN DECIMATED, THOSE DEER WOULD HAVE BEEN PUT TO FLIGHT AND SCATTERED BY THE MERE PRESENCE OF MOUNTAIN LIONS. THEY DON'T CONTROL HERBIVORES BY KILLING THEM BUT BY FRIGHTENING THEM. AND IT CAUSES THEM TO STAY IN THE OPEN SO THEY CAN SEE THE PREDATOR WHICH STALKS ITS PREY AND STRIKES FROM AMBUSH. BUT WITHOUT A PREDATOR, THEY CAN CLUSTER TOGETHER AND NOT JUST DESTROY VEGETATION, BUT THEY CAN SPREAD DISEASES THAT WILL DESTROY THEM. NATURE HAS A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO DEAL WITH THE ECOLOGY THAN THESE PEOPLE WITH GAME AND PARKS. GAME AND PARKS COMMISSIONERS KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MANAGING THE ECOLOGY OR THESE ANIMALS. THAT'S NOT WHAT THEY'RE APPOINTED FOR. IT'S A GOOD OLD BOYS CLUB. THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO NOBODY. AND I'M THE ONE WHO GETS LETTERS FROM PEOPLE AROUND THIS STATE SAYING THAT THEY WRITE TO THE COMMISSIONERS AND DON'T EVEN GET AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR A RESPONSE. AND WHEN I ASK, WHY DO YOU WRITE TO ME, WHY DON'T YOU WRITE TO THE SENATOR WHO REPRESENTS YOU: BECAUSE THEY DON'T BELIEVE THOSE SENATORS WILL DO ANYTHING. BUT I'M GOING TO DO SOMETHING. AND IT MIGHT TAKE ME THE SIX YEARS THAT I MAY HAVE LEFT TO BE IN THIS LEGISLATURE BEFORE BEING TERM LIMITED OUT AGAIN. I WANT TO DIVIDE THE STATE INTO DISTRICTS AND MAKE GAME AND PARKS AN ELECTIVE POSITION, AND FROM EACH OF THOSE DISTRICTS THE PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO ELECT SOMEBODY TO SERVE ON THAT COMMISSION. AND THERE WILL BE SOME ACCOUNTABILITY THEREBY. BUT RIGHT NOW YOU'VE GOT A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WHO OUGHT NOT BE THERE. BUT THEY'RE ACCOUNTABLE TO NOBODY. AND MR. DOUGLAS IS SHAKING IN HIS BOOTS BECAUSE NOW HE'S CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO FORCES--THE COMMISSIONERS ON ONE SIDE, WHO DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MANAGING WILDLIFE AND DON'T CARE, AND ME ON THE OTHER. AND HE'S GOT TO CHOOSE WHICH DIRECTION HE'S GOING TO FALL. BUT THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT HE KEEPS HIS JOB. SO I HAVE MANY THINGS THAT I INTEND TO TALK ABOUT, MANY ISSUES I INTEND TO RAISE, BUT THEY WILL NOT ALL BE RAISED ON SENATOR SCHEER'S BILL, BECAUSE I THINK THE LAST TIME I SAID SOMETHING ON HIS BILL, I ASSURED HIM THAT HIS BILL WOULD PASS. SO, MR. PRESIDENT, I'M WITHDRAWING THAT PENDING MOTION ON LB52, WHICH IS SENATOR SCHEER (SHAKING IN HIS BOOTS), INTRODUCER OF THE BILL. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB52]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOUR MOTION TO STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE IS WITHDRAWN. MR. CLERK, WE WILL RETURN TO FINAL

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READING. MEMBERS, PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEATS. WE WILL START WITH LB52. MR. CLERK. [LB52]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB52 ON FINAL READING.) [LB52]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB52 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB52]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 656.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB52]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB52 PASSES. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) MR. CLERK, WE WILL PROCEED TO LB87. [LB52 LB87]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN LB87 TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA19, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 656.) [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LB87]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, I OBVIOUSLY HAVE NOTHING AGAINST THIS BILL, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE A FEW THINGS TO SAY. THE MEMBERS OF THIS BODY DO NOT ATTEND COMMITTEE HEARINGS BECAUSE THE MEMBERS ARE TIED UP IN THEIR OWN COMMITTEES. BUT THE ONLY WAY YOU'RE GOING TO BE AWARE OF WHAT HAPPENS, SOMETIMES YOU READ THE NEWSPAPER. AND THEY CAN'T PRINT EVERYTHING, SO THEY FILTER THROUGH THEIR MIND WHAT THEY THINK IS IMPORTANT AND THEY PUT IT OUT THERE. WELL, SOMETHING WAS PRINTED IN ONE OF THE PAPERS ABOUT...I DON'T...IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR OR THE WORLD-HERALD, THOSE ARE THE TWO THAT I READ, IN ONE OR THE OTHER, THAT IF THERE'S NO HUNTING ALLOWED OF THIS TINY POPULATION OF MOUNTAIN LIONS IN NEBRASKA, THEY WILL...THE MOUNTAIN LIONS IN OTHER STATES WHERE THERE'S HUNTING WILL REALIZE THAT THERE'S NO HUNTING IN NEBRASKA, AND THEY'LL COME HERE BECAUSE IT'S A REFUGE. NOW, DO YOU BELIEVE THAT? THAT'S THE KIND OF PREPOSTEROUS POPPYCOCK THAT THEY TOLD TO THAT COMMITTEE, FEELING THAT THEY'VE GOT AN EAR ON ONE SIDE OF THEIR HEAD AND A CORRESPONDING EAR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF

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THEIR HEAD, AND THE ONLY THING THAT JOINS THOSE TWO EARS IS THE BONE COMPRISING THEIR SKULL AND NOTHING IN BETWEEN, NO BRAIN CELLS WORKING. AS MUCH RESPECT AS I HAVE FOR THESE REGAL ANIMALS, I WOULD NEVER TELL YOU THAT THEY ARE SO INTELLIGENT, SO AWARE OF EVERYTHING GOING ON IN OTHER STATES THAT THEY'LL SAY, WE WILL AVOID MONTANA, WE'LL AVOID WYOMING, WE'LL AVOID SOUTH DAKOTA, NORTH DAKOTA; WE CERTAINLY WILL LEAVE CALIFORNIA, AND WE'RE GOING TO ALL HEAD FOR NEBRASKA BECAUSE THEY DON'T ALLOW US TO BE HUNTED THERE. THAT'S THE CRAZINESS THAT I HAD TO SIT AND LISTEN TO IN FRONT OF THAT COMMITTEE BECAUSE THEY HAD ALREADY BEEN ASSURED THAT THE COMMITTEE IS GOING TO KILL MY BILL, AND THEY INSULTED MY INTELLIGENCE BY SAYING IT IN FRONT OF ME. FIRST OF ALL, THERE WAS NO HUNTING SEASON PUT IN PLACE BECAUSE THESE ANIMALS WERE PROLIFERATING. THEY WERE NEVER A NUMERICAL PROBLEM IN THIS STATE. THEY WERE COMPLETELY ELIMINATED DURING THE 1800s. THE FIRST SIGHTING AGAIN WAS IN 1991. AND SINCE 1991 UNTIL TODAY THERE HAS BEEN NOT ONE REPORTED ATTACK BY A MOUNTAIN LION AGAINST ANY HUMAN BEING. NOW, THE HUNTERS SHOULD HAVE BEEN ATTACKED, BUT NOT EVEN THEY HAD BEEN ATTACKED, NOT ONE ATTACK. AND THIS FOOL WHO CAME BEFORE THAT COMMITTEE SAID THAT IF YOU DO AWAY WITH THE HUNTING SEASON, THERE WILL BE DIRE CONSEQUENCES BECAUSE THE OTHER MOUNTAIN LIONS IN OTHER STATES WILL SEE NEBRASKA AS A REFUGE. HE WOULDN'T SAY THAT TO ME BECAUSE HE KNOWS I KNOW BETTER. THEN WHY HAVE A HUNTING SEASON? WELL, BECAUSE THEY'RE ATTACKING LIVESTOCK. BUT, BETWEEN 1991 AND TODAY, THERE HAS ONLY BEEN ONE REPORTED ATTACK BY A MOUNTAIN LION ON LIVESTOCK. MOUNTAIN LIONS, LIKE OTHER ANIMALS, TRAIN AND TEACH THEIR YOUNG. YOUNG MOUNTAIN LIONS ARE TAUGHT BY THEIR MOTHER WHAT IS APPROPRIATE PREY FOR THEM. LIVESTOCK IS NOT ON THE MENU. YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'LL FIND LIVESTOCK BEING ATTACKED BY MOUNTAIN LIONS? IF A MOTHER IS KILLED BEFORE SHE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH THESE YOUNG LIONS THAT THOSE ANIMALS ARE NOT YOUR PREY. SO WHEN YOU KILL OFF THESE OLDER MOUNTAIN LIONS, YOU, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS COUNTERINTUITIVE, ARE CREATING A SITUATION WHERE LIVESTOCK ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE ATTACKED, WHERE HUMAN BEINGS ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE AGGRESSIVE ENCOUNTERS WITH THESE ANIMALS. THEY ARE SHY, THEY ARE TIMOROUS, THEY ARE THE MOST TIMID OF ALL OF THE LARGE PREDATORS ON THIS PLANET. NO OTHER LARGE CAT IS KNOWN AS A GHOST OR A PHANTOM BECAUSE IT'S NOT SEEN. EVEN WHERE THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT THEY ARE IN THE AREA, THEY ARE NOT SEEN. AND THAT MAN IS GOING TO TELL THIS COMMITTEE, THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, THAT IF YOU TAKE AWAY FROM THE GAME AND PARKS

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COMMISSION THE AUTHORITY TO SET A HUNTING SEASON THERE WILL BE DIRE CONSEQUENCES. YOU KNOW WHAT THE DIRE CONSEQUENCES ARE? THESE BARBARIC, SAVAGE, VICIOUS BUTCHERS WHO CALL THEMSELVES HUNTERS WILL NOT HAVE GAME THAT THEY CAN SIC DOGS ON, KILL THE ANIMAL, AND PUT ITS PELT OR ITS HEAD ON A WALL. AND THEY WANT TO USE DOGS, AND THEY SUGGESTED TO THE COMMITTEE THAT DOGS ARE USED IN ALL THE STATES, AND THAT'S NOT TRUE. THERE ARE STATES THAT HAVE SPECIFIC LAWS AGAINST THE DOGS, AND THERE HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTS TO OVERTURN THOSE LAWS. NOBODY ON THAT COMMITTEE WOULD ASK THE QUESTIONS, BECAUSE NOBODY KNEW ANYTHING. AND WHY SHOULD THEY? MOUNTAIN LIONS ARE NOT OF ANY INTEREST TO ANYBODY EXCEPT ME AS FAR AS THE LEGISLATURE IS CONCERNED, BUT I'M NOT ON THE COMMITTEE. SO THEY TALKED THAT POPPYCOCK THAT THEY WOULDN'T DARE HAVE MENTIONED IF I WERE ON THE COMMITTEE. SO WHY THEN WOULD THERE BE A HUNTING SEASON? GAME AND PARKS WANTED SOME MONEY. SO THEY GOT SENATOR LOUDEN TO OFFER A BILL TO AN INATTENTIVE LEGISLATURE TO ALLOW GAME AND PARKS TO SET A HUNTING SEASON ON MOUNTAIN LIONS. I LOOKED AT THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE FLOOR DEBATE. THE ONLY ONE WHO SPOKE WAS SENATOR LOUDEN WHEN HE OPENED AND WHEN HE CLOSED. AND YOU KNOW WHAT THE BILL DEALT WITH PRIMARILY? ALLOWING THE MEAT OBTAINED FROM ANIMALS KILLED BY HUNTERS TO BE USED AT SOME OF THESE PLACES WHERE THEY PROVIDE FOOD FOR POOR PEOPLE. THAT'S WHAT THE BILL SPENT MOST OF ITS TIME TALKING ABOUT. AND FORMER SENATOR, I FORGET HIS NAME, FULTON WAS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THAT PROPOSITION, AND THAT'S THE ONE THAT WAS DEBATED. SO NOBODY IS IN A POSITION, IF THEY TELL THE TRUTH, TO SAY THAT THIS MATTER WAS THOROUGHLY DEBATED. AND YOU KNOW WHY GAME AND PARKS WANTED IT? THEY WERE GOING TO AUCTION OFF HUNTING LICENSES TO RAISE MONEY. THESE NOBLE, REGAL BEASTS, WHICH HAD OFFENDED AGAINST NO HUMAN BEING AND NO LIVESTOCK TO SPEAK OF, WERE TO BE THE SOURCE OF RAISING MONEY BY GAME AND PARKS. SO YOU KNOW WHAT THE SUCKERS DID? YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I SAID, BECAUSE I DON'T USE STRONGER AND WORSE LANGUAGE ON THE FLOOR OF THE LEGISLATURE. THEY HAD A DINNER OUT AT MAHONEY PARK, AND THAT'S WHERE THE BIDDING WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN. AND THE BIDDING STARTED AT \$500 AND IT REACHED AN AMOUNT OVER \$10,000, I THINK IT WAS \$14,000, FOR THE RIGHT TO GO OUT AND KILL ONE OF THESE ANIMALS. AND IT WAS SPECIFIED THAT DOGS COULD BE USED. AND THE DOGS WERE MISUSED. AND WHEN THEY WERE SET LOOSE, THEY CHASED THE ANIMAL UNTIL THE ANIMAL WAS EXHAUSTED. THEN THE ANIMAL DID WHAT THE GOD YOU ALL PRAY TO, IF THERE IS SUCH A GOD, DID WHAT THAT GOD PUT INTO THAT BEAST, AND IT CLIMBED A TREE FOR SAFETY AND WAS NOT FIGHTING THE DOGS. AND

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IN THAT TREE, HERE COMES THE GREAT WHITE HUNTER WITH HIS HIGH-POWERED RIFLE DEALING WITH AN ANIMAL THAT HAD BEEN RUN-TO-EARTH EXHAUSTED BUT HAD ENOUGH STRENGTH TO CLIMB A TREE, AS THEY DO,... [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB87]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...AND SHOT IT OUT OF THE TREE. AND THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE ON THIS FLOOR GO FOR, BUT NOT EVERYBODY. TWENTY-EIGHT SENATORS WERE WILLING TO OVERRIDE THE GOVERNOR'S VETO. BUT 28 VOTES WERE NOT ENOUGH. SO WHAT I'M SAYING DOES NOT APPLY TO EVERYBODY ON THIS FLOOR, NOT EVERYBODY WHO WAS HERE. SOME OF THEM ARE GONE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE MAKEUP OF THE LEGISLATURE NOW, WITH THESE NEW PEOPLE, WILL LEAD TO AS FAR AS THIS BILL OF MINE IS CONCERNED. BUT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO DELAY ANY BILL MORE THAN NECESSARY, I'M GOING TO WITHDRAW MY MOTION, BUT I HAVEN'T DONE THAT YET. I WANT YOU TO KEEP TRACK OF HOW MUCH TIME IS PASSING. AND I'M NOT TAKING ALL OF THE TIME THAT I CAN TAKE ON EACH ONE OF THESE MOTIONS. AND I HAVEN'T OFFERED A RECONSIDERATION MOTION YET. I CAN KEEP US HERE ALL DAY ON FINAL READING. AND I'D LIKE SOMEBODY... [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB87]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...TO SAY, NO, YOU CAN'T. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. CLERK, WE WILL RETURN TO THE FINAL READING ON LB87. OH, I'M SORRY, SENATOR CHAMBERS. [LB87]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I WANT TO WITHDRAW THAT MOTION, BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DO IT BEFORE I RAN OUT. THANK YOU. [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: I APOLOGIZE, SENATOR CHAMBERS. THAT MOTION IS WITHDRAWN. MR. CLERK, WE WILL RETURN TO LB87. [LB87]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB87 ON FINAL READING.) [LB87]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB87 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB87]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 657.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB87]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB87 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB90. [LB87 LB90]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN LB90 TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA20, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 657.) [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON YOUR AMENDMENT. [LB90]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, HERE WAS SOMETHING, I DON'T KNOW IF THE GOVERNOR REPENTS HIMSELF AND WILL ERASE THIS THAT HE SAID, BECAUSE HE AND I HAVE HAD A CONVERSATION. HE DID COME BY MY OFFICE. WE SPOKE VERY CIVILLY TO EACH OTHER. BUT WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT IS BETWEEN HIM AND ME. BUT HE'S FREE TO TELL ANYBODY HE WANTS TO WHATEVER WE TALKED ABOUT, BECAUSE IT WAS NOT CONFIDENTIAL, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED. BUT HERE'S WHAT COMES FROM THE LEXINGTON CLIPPER-HERALD , AND I HAVE HANDED IT AROUND ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS. AND THIS ITEM IS DATED MAY 10, 2014, AND DURING A QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION, THIS IS THE REPORTAGE ON WHAT HAPPENED: DURING A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH RESIDENTS AFTER HIS TALK, RICKETTS SAID IF ELECTED HE WOULD NOT ALLOW THE TACTICS OF OMAHA SENATOR ERNIE CHAMBERS HIJACK THE AGENDA OF THE LEGISLATURE. QUOTE, "ERNIE IS A SMART MAN, BUT HE IS ONE MAN. YOU HAVE TO HAVE A COALITION TO SET THE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. I WANT TO GROW THAT COALITION SO WE DON'T GET TIED UP TALKING ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS, RICKETTS SAID." THEN LET THE GOVERNOR TALK TO THE MEMBERS OF THAT COMMITTEE, AND THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS ALL SESSION. BUT IF HE CANNOT STOP ME FROM TALKING ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS TODAY, HOW IS HE GOING TO STOP ME ALL SESSION? HOW? HE CHALLENGED ME, AND HE CHALLENGED YOU ALL. THOSE WHO ARE ON HIS SIDE, GET TOGETHER AND DEMONSTRATE TODAY HOW YOU'RE GOING TO STOP ME. AND IF YOU DON'T STOP ME TODAY, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY, THINGS JUST GET WORSE. GIVE A

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GUY AN INCH AND HE'LL TAKE A MILE. SO IF THE BIGGEST GUN IN THE ARSENAL CANNOT STOP ME TODAY, WHY SHOULD I WORRY ABOUT THE PEASHOOTERS AND THE BB GUNS? AND THAT'S WHAT HE'S CONVERTING YOU ALL INTO. HE PROBABLY, BECAUSE HE'S A BUSINESSMAN AND DOESN'T SPEAK WITHOUT THINKING, HAD POLLED THE BODY AND FOUND OUT THAT HE COULD GET ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO ARE IN THE LEGISLATURE TO JOIN HIS COALITION AND HELP HIM PUT ME IN MY PLACE SO I DON'T TALK ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS. WHAT HE SHOULD HAVE DONE WAS FIGURED HOW TO GET THAT DONE WITHOUT RISKING HIS REPUTATION, AND THAT WOULD BE TO TALK TO THE MEMBERS OF THAT COMMITTEE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND TELL THEM LET MY BILL GO. ISN'T THAT WHAT MOSES TOLD PHARAOH? ALL OF THESE PLAGUES WERE SENT ON EGYPT, BASED ON THE FAIRY TALE IN THE "BIBBLE," LOCUSTS, OTHER BAD THINGS. AND PHARAOH WANTED TO KNOW, WHAT CAN I DO TO GET OUT FROM UNDER THIS? SO AT SOME POINT HE HAD A CONVERSATION WITH MOSES, AND MOSES TOLD PHARAOH, (SINGING) LET MY PEOPLE GO. AND PHARAOH SAID, IF I TURN THEM LOOSE, WILL YOU GET THEM OUT OF HERE AND GET THESE PLAGUES OFF ME? AND MOSES SAID, IF YOU TURN THEM LOOSE, WE'LL BE LIKE A FRIGHTENED GOOSE; WE'LL FLY OUT OF HERE AND YOU NEED NOT EVER SEE OR HEAR FROM US AGAIN. SO PHARAOH SAID, WELL, IN ORDER FOR YOU TO GET OUT OF HERE THERE'S A RIVER YOU'D HAVE TO CROSS AND I DON'T HAVE ANY BOATS THAT I COULD GIVE YOU, AND I'D HAPPILY GIVE YOU SOME BOATS, BUT I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH BOATS TO CARRY ALL THESE PEOPLE. AND MOSES SAID, WELL, IF YOU TELL US WE CAN GO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT HOW WE'RE GOING TO GET ACROSS THE RIVER, BECAUSE I HAVE ONE WHO CONTROLS THE RIVER. HE'S ONE OF THESE "OLOGISTS" WHO KNOWS ALL ABOUT WATER, SO CAN WE GO? AND PHARAOH SAID, YES, WITH MY BLESSING. SO THEY GOT TO THE EDGE OF THE RIVER, AND THEY STARTED WALKING INTO THE WATER BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED IN MOSES. AND WHEN THEY WERE VERY NEAR THE SHORE, BECAUSE THE LAND SLOPED AWAY FROM THE SHORE INTO DEEPER WATER, THEY WEREN'T WORRIED. BUT THEN, WHEN IT GOT UP TO THEIR KNEES, THEY BEGAN TO THINK, IS THIS WHAT WE OUGHT TO DO? THEN IT GOT UP TO THEIR WAIST, AND THEY SAID, MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T DO THIS. THEN IT GOT UP TO THEIR CHEST AND THEY SAID, WHAT FOOLS ARE WE? IT GOT UP TO THEIR NECK AND THEY SAID, LET'S GO BACK TO...AND BEFORE THEY COULD GET THE WORD "EGYPT" OUT OF THEIR MOUTH, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED? THE WATERS BEGAN TO RECEDE, AND THEY PILED UP IN WALLS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ISRAELIS, KNOWN AS HEBREWS IN THOSE DAYS. YOU KNOW WHY THEY CALLED THEM HEBREWS? BECAUSE THE MEN RESPECTED THE WOMEN IN THOSE DAYS, AND WHEN WOMEN WANTED COFFEE, THE MEN WOULD BREW THE COFFEE FOR THE WOMEN. AND THAT'S WHERE THAT EXPRESSION "HEBREWS" CAME FROM,

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BECAUSE EVERY "HE" BREWED THE COFFEE FOR THE WOMEN IN THE MORNING TO SHOW THEIR RESPECT. SO THE HEBREWS STEPPED OUT AND THE LAND DRIED. THEY WALKED BETWEEN THESE TWO WALLS. AND THEN THE RIVER WAS SO WIDE THAT NIGHTFALL CAME, AND THEY DIDN'T HAVE SPOTLIGHTS IN THOSE DAYS. BUT THEN A PILLAR OF FIRE APPEARED MAGICALLY AND IT LIGHTED THE WAY SO THAT THEY COULD SEE HOW TO WALK ON DRY LAND WHERE ONCE THERE WAS A RUSHING RIVER. AND THEY MADE IT TO THE OTHER SIDE. NOW, IS GOVERNOR RICKETTS GOING TO DO THAT HERE TODAY? ARE THE "CRICKETS" ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE AISLE AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE MOUNTAIN LIONS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE AISLE? HOW CAN I MAKE THAT JUDGMENT? BUT I AM SUGGESTING WHAT MR. RICKETTS, GOVERNOR RICKETTS, MAY HAVE ON HIS HANDS. I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S GOING TO HAVE SOME DIVINE INTERVENTION THAT WILL, TO USE THE LANGUAGE OF THE "BIBBLE," CAUSE MY TONGUE TO CLEAVE TO THE ROOF OF MY MOUTH AND MY RIGHT ARM TO LOSE HER CUNNING. NOW, IF HE'S GOT SOME HELP OF A SUPERNATURAL VARIETY WHO CAN PULL THAT OFF, THEN MAYBE I WILL NOT TALK ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS. BUT I BELIEVE WHEN YOUR WORD IS GIVEN, YOU SHOULD CARRY IT OUT. AND I PROMISED THE MEMBERS OF THAT COMMITTEE, AND I MAY HAVE SAID IT ON THE FLOOR BUT HAVE I NOT, HAD I NOT SAID IT ON THE FLOOR UP TO THIS TIME, I WANT TO SAY IT NOW. THEY CAN DO WHATEVER THEY WANT TO WITH MY BILL. THEY CAN KILL IT OR THEY CAN HOLD IT. BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE A MOTION TO PULL IT FROM THAT COMMITTEE. AND IF THE LEGISLATURE, ACTING IN CONCERT WITH THOSE PEOPLE ON THAT COMMITTEE AND THE GOVERNOR, REFUSE TO PULL THE BILL FROM COMMITTEE AND BRING IT TO THIS FLOOR, AS WAS DONE LAST SESSION...BECAUSE THAT COMMITTEE WAS NOT RUN BY CABELA'S, AND GAME AND PARKS TESTIFIED IN A NEUTRAL POSITION. IF THE LEGISLATURE DOES NOT PULL THE BILL, THEN I INTEND TO HAVE IT DRAFTED AS AN AMENDMENT TO VARIOUS BILLS--I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY YET--THAT WILL COME BEFORE US AND OFFER IT AS AN AMENDMENT. AND THERE WILL BE SOME BILLS TO WHICH IT CANNOT CONSTITUTIONALLY BE ADDED, UNLESS WE GUT THE BILL COMPLETELY, BECAUSE IT WILL NOT BE GERMANE. BUT THAT DOESN'T STOP ME FROM OFFERING IT. IT DOESN'T STOP ME, WHEN THE AMENDMENT COMES UP, FROM DEBATING MY AMENDMENT. AND ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO CAN CHALLENGE IT FOR GERMANENESS. THERE WILL BE A CONSULTATION UP AT THE DESK. THE CLERK WILL BE THERE. THE SPEAKER WILL BE THERE. I WILL BE THERE AND WHOEVER CHALLENGES... [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB90]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...THE GERMANENESS WILL ALSO BE THERE. AND WE'LL BE PASSING TIME WHILE WE HAVE THIS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE. IF IT'S NOT GERMANE, THE CHAIR WILL SO RULE. THEN I WILL MOVE TO OVERRULE THE CHAIR, AND EVERYBODY CAN SPEAK ONE TIME. I WILL OPEN ON MY MOTION TO OVERRULE THE CHAIR. I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SPEAK DURING THE DEBATE. MAYBE I CAN. I HAVE TO CHECK THAT OUT, BECAUSE I DON'T REMEMBER HAVING DONE THAT VERY OFTEN. BUT I WILL BE ABLE TO CLOSE ON MY MOTION. THEN THE QUESTION WILL BE, SHALL THE CHAIR BE OVERRULED? AND THE CHAIR WILL NOT BE OVERRULED. AND I THINK ANY MOTION IS AMENABLE TO A MOTION TO RECONSIDER. AND IF I DON'T GET MY WAY ON THAT, THEN I CAN BEGIN OFFERING MOTIONS ON THE UNDERLYING BILL, PRIORITY MOTIONS. GOVERNOR RICKETTS... [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB90]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I WILL WITHDRAW THAT MOTION. [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. CLERK. [LB90]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR JOHNSON WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA25, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 658.) [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR JOHNSON, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB90]

SENATOR JOHNSON: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THE ONLY WAY I WOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO REACT OR RESPOND TO THE CONVERSATIONS THAT WE'VE HAD WITH SENATOR CHAMBERS WAS TO INTRODUCE THIS RETURN TO SELECT FILE, AND I WILL PULL THE AMENDMENT ONCE I'VE COMPLETED MY CONVERSATION. AS YOU PROBABLY MIGHT KNOW, I OFFERED THE PRAYER THIS MORNING. WHEN SENATOR CHAMBERS CAME IN, FIRST THING HE SAID TO ME, THE LORD WILL NOT BE HERE TODAY. I THINK WE'VE HEARD A LITTLE BIT OF THE BIBLE STUDY ALREADY. I AGREED, HE WILL PROBABLY NOT PHYSICALLY BE HERE TODAY, BUT I WILL SAY HE IS PRESENT WITHIN MY HEART. NOW, TO GET BACK TO WHAT WE...THE HEARING WE HAD YESTERDAY, I SAT ON THE COMMITTEE LAST YEAR. I WAS ONE OF THE SIX MEMBERS OF THAT COMMITTEE THAT VOTED TO ADVANCE THE BILL FOR DISCUSSION ON THE FLOOR. I EXPLAINED THAT POSITION TO THE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY. CIRCUMSTANCES WERE A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT LAST

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YEAR. BUT I HEARD THE SAME TESTIMONY YESTERDAY AS I HEARD TWO YEARS AGO, BOTH FROM THE INTRODUCER, THE PROPONENTS, AND THOSE THAT OPPOSED THE BILL, THE OPPONENTS. I WILL HAVE TO SAY THAT THE PROPONENTS FOR THE BILL GAVE A VERY STRONG PRESENTATION AGAIN. I ASKED THE QUESTIONS OF THE GAME AND PARKS DEALING WITH SHOOTING OR CHASING THE ANIMAL UP INTO THE TREE WITH DOGS. THEY...SENATOR CHAMBERS IS CORRECT IN WHAT THEY ANSWERED. I ASKED THE QUESTION, WHAT IF THERE IS NOT A MOUNTAIN LION HUNTING SEASON; HOW WOULD YOU MANAGE THE HERD? AND THEY TALKED ABOUT THAT. I BELIEVE THEY PROBABLY WOULD BE ABLE TO. I ASKED THEM, IF THEY'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO RESEARCH ON THIS AND SPEND MONEY, WHERE WILL YOU GET THE MONEY IF YOU DON'T HAVE A HUNTING SEASON IN ORDER TO SELL PERMITS? THEY SAID THEY HAVE RESOURCES WITHIN THEIR SYSTEM AND THEY'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO STUDY THE HABITAT OF THE MOUNTAIN LION. I THINK THEY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE. SENATOR CHAMBERS ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE MIGHT SUPPORT SOME FUNDING FOR THAT PARTICULAR STUDY AND IN A DIRECT WAY, BECAUSE HE SAID MAYBE THERE WOULD BE ROOM IN HIS HEART TO MAYBE PROVIDE HELP WITH SOME FUNDING FOR GAME AND PARKS FOR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS. SO THAT BEING SAID, WE HAVE NOT "EXECED" ON IT. WE HAVE TIME, YOU KNOW, TO THINK ABOUT IT OVERNIGHT AT LEAST. I DON'T KNOW IF WE WILL EXEC ON IT TODAY. BUT I DIDN'T KNOW SENATOR CHAMBERS WAS GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THIS, THIS MORNING. WE HAD OUR CONVERSATION BEFORE WE CONVENED AND...BUT BEFORE THAT, I TOLD HIM I WAS IN SUPPORT OF HIS BILL, AND I WILL BE VOTING TO MOVE IT OUT OF COMMITTEE. AND WITH THAT, I WILL WITHDRAW MY MOTION TO RETURN TO SELECT FILE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. CLERK, WE WILL RETURN TO LB90. WOULD MEMBERS RETURN TO THEIR SEATS FOR FINAL READINGS. [LB90]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB90 ON FINAL READING.) [LB90]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB90 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB90]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 658.) VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB90]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: LB90 PASSES. WE'LL NOW PROCEED TO LB94. MR. CLERK.
[LB90 LB94]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN LB94 TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA21, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 659.) [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON YOUR MOTION. [LB94]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, WHAT SENATOR JOHNSON SAID WAS CORRECT WITH ONE EXCEPTION. HE SUGGESTED OR STATED THAT I HAVE A HEART, WHICH IS NOT TRUE. I DON'T HAVE. OTHER THAN THAT, WHAT HE SAID WAS CORRECT. AND AS FAR AS THE FUNDING, I WAS A LITTLE MORE FORCEFUL THAN WHAT HE SAID, BUT I THINK HE WANTED TO BE SURE THAT HE DIDN'T OVERSTATE MY POSITION. I HAD SAID THAT I WILL HELP GAME AND PARKS GET THE MONEY THEY NEED TO CONDUCT THE STUDY THAT THEY HAVE IN MIND. AND YOU KNOW WHY I CAN MAKE THAT GUARANTEE? IT'S NOT GOING TO BE THAT MUCH MONEY, AND THE PEOPLE TRYING TO GET THE BUDGET THROUGH HERE WOULD HAPPILY ADD THAT LITTLE PIDDLING AMOUNT OF MONEY TO THE BUDGET TO KEEP ME FROM DOING ON THE BUDGET, EVERY SECTION OF THE BUDGET, WHAT I'M DOING HERE ON FINAL READING. AND IF THEY DIDN'T, THEN WE'D JUST COME BACK FOR A SPECIAL SESSION, AND I'D DO THE SAME THING THERE. SO I DON'T THINK THAT THERE WOULD BE OPPOSITION REALLY TO PEOPLE ON THE FLOOR TO GIVING GAME AND PARKS THE MONEY THEY NEED TO CONDUCT A SCIENTIFIC STUDY ON AN ISSUE THAT HAS BECOME SO IMPORTANT. AND YOU KNOW WHY IT'S BECOME IMPORTANT? BECAUSE I WAS WILLING TO STEP OUT AND DO SOMETHING TO SAVE THESE ANIMALS. HAD I NOT DONE THAT, PEOPLE WOULDN'T BE TALKING ABOUT MOUNTAIN LIONS. THEY WOULDN'T BE MAKING JOKES ABOUT THEM. THEY WOULDN'T BE MAKING FALSE SIGHTINGS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. SO NOW IT IS AN ISSUE. IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ONE OF THOSE THINGS THAT MADE THE GOVERNOR PUT HIMSELF IN A FOOLISH POSITION. BUT I WAS MENTIONING, WHEN I RAN OUT OF TIME THE LAST TIME, ABOUT THE GOVERNOR'S SITUATION. HERE'S WHAT HE COULD DO, AND I WOULDN'T BRING HIM UP ON THIS ISSUE ANYMORE UNLESS IT WAS JESTING. HE COULD JUST GET ONE OF HIS PIECES OF PAPER AND MAKE A PRESS RELEASE AND GIVE IT TO ALL THE NEWS MEDIA WHO PROBABLY ARE AWARE OF WHAT HE SAID HERE, AND TELL THEM THAT WAS...WELL, HE HAS PEOPLE WHO TELL HIM HOW TO SAY IT, BUT INDICATE THAT THAT IS NOT A STATEMENT OF WHAT HE

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ACTUALLY INTENDS TO DO. BUT IN THE SAME WAY THAT SENATOR SCHUMACHER READ FOR US AN OFFICIALLY AND FORMALLY ADOPTED RESOLUTION OF THE NEBRASKA REPUBLICAN PARTY, WHICH THEY HAVE NOT RESCINDED--AND UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY RESCIND IT, IT CAN BE CONSIDERED TO STILL BE IN EFFECT--THE GOVERNOR PUBLICLY MADE HIS STATEMENT IN HIS DECLARATION. IF HE WOULD PUBLICLY RESCIND THAT PROMISE TO START HIS COALITION, THEN I WOULD STILL DO WHAT I'M GOING TO DO. BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DRAW HIM INTO IT. BUT AS LONG AS THAT STANDS OUT THERE, WHAT CAN I DO? I'M THE ONE WHO BROUGHT IT UP. NOW, IF I'M DEFENDING ANIMALS WHICH, DESPITE THEIR SHYNESS, DESPITE THEIR TIMIDITY, DESPITE THEIR ATTEMPT TO MAKE SURE NOBODY SEES THEM, BUT WILL, IF CORNERED, FIGHT AS ANY ANIMAL WOULD, I'VE GOT TO HOLD MY GROUND UNTIL THERE'S A REASON TO CHANGE IT. ONE THING THAT WAS MADE CLEAR DURING THE HEARING WAS THAT WOLVES--AND IT WASN'T STATED IN THIS MANNER DIRECTLY BUT IT'S THE TRUTH--WOLVES WOULD BE AT THE TOP OF THE PREDATOR CHAIN. AND WOLVES WOULD BE THE PREDATORS WHOM THE MOUNTAIN LIONS WOULD HAVE TO FEAR. ONE ON ONE, NO WOLF COULD DO ANYTHING WITH A GROWN MOUNTAIN LION. BUT SINCE THEY RUN AROUND IN PACKS, AS THE GOVERNOR SUGGESTED HE WILL GET A PACK OF YOU ALL TO RUN ME DOWN, THEY CAN IN A PACK OVERCOME A MOUNTAIN LION, JUST AS A PACK OF DOGS CAN CHASE A MOUNTAIN LION. BUT WHAT THE DOGS DON'T WANT TO DO, AND THEY DON'T KNOW THAT YET, THEY DON'T WANT TO BACK THAT MOUNTAIN LION INTO A CORNER SO THAT THE DOGS ARE THE ONES WHO ARE GOING TO HAVE TO COME AND DEAL WITH THE MOUNTAIN LION. ONE SWIPE OF THAT MOUNTAIN LION'S PAW COULD DISEMBOWEL A DOG. AND TO TAKE THESE ANIMALS AND SET THEM INTO THAT KIND OF A SITUATION IS ANOTHER TESTIMONY TO THE CRUELTY AND VICIOUSNESS OF THESE PEOPLE WHO CALL THEMSELVES HUNTERS. DOGS DON'T, ON THEIR OWN, GO OUT HUNTING MOUNTAIN LIONS. DOGS WOULD AVOID MOUNTAIN LIONS AND MOUNTAIN LIONS WOULD AVOID DOGS. BUT THANKS TO THESE HUNTERS, THANKS TO CABELA'S, THESE SO-CALLED BIG GAME HUNTERS WITH THEIR HIGH-POWERED RIFLES...AND SOME OF THEM GO ON THESE CANNED HUNTS WHERE YOU HAVE ANIMALS WHO ARE VIRTUALLY TAME. YOU CAN EVEN SHOOT THEM BY USING THE INTERNET. YOU CAN AIM YOUR WEAPON THAT WAY. AND THEY GOT A WEAPON THERE WHERE THE ANIMAL IS AND YOU KILL THE ANIMAL LONG DISTANCE. AND I'M SUPPOSED TO HAVE RESPECT FOR THESE KIND OF PEOPLE AND RESPECT FOR THE MEMBERS OF A COMMITTEE WHO WILL BE BULLDOZED BY THOSE PEOPLE? LET THEM KILL MY BILL AND TURN ME LOOSE ON THIS CHAMBER IN THE WAY THEY WANT TO TURN THOSE DOGS LOOSE ON A MOUNTAIN LION AND WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS. BUT I ASSURE

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YOU, I'M NOT GOING TO RUN UP A TREE. AND I WILL GIVE BETTER THAN WHAT I GET. AND IF I SOUND UPSET THIS MORNING, YOU HAVE READ ME PROPERLY. THE KIND OF THINGS SAID TO THAT COMMITTEE, LEFT UNCHALLENGED BASICALLY, LETS ME KNOW WHY MY JOB IS SO HARD. THAT SWILL APPARENTLY WAS SWALLOWED YESTERDAY. AND THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO DEAL WITH SOME OF IT, BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO READ IT IN THE PAPER. I DON'T THINK EITHER PAPER POINTED OUT THE POINT I MADE ABOUT POLITICIANS MANAGING WATER AND THE OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES OF THIS STATE. THAT WASN'T PRINTED. SO IT WOULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I DIDN'T SPEAK ABOUT ANY OF THOSE ISSUES. SO I'VE GOT TO SPEAK FOR MYSELF BECAUSE I CAN. AND I HAVE TO SPEAK FOR THESE LIONS BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO VOICE. I WAS SPEAKING WITH SENATOR STINNER AND WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE WIDE-RANGING TERRITORY THAT ONE OF THESE ANIMALS WILL COVER. AND WE BOTH KNOW THAT THEY'RE CREATURES OF THE TWILIGHT AND OF THE NIGHT. THEIR DAYLIGHT HOURS ARE SPENT OUT OF SIGHT, SLEEPING, RESTING, BECAUSE THEY'RE VERY BUSY AT NIGHT. SO SOMEBODY COULD SAY, I SAW THREE MOUNTAIN LIONS, AND WOULD HAVE SEEN THE SAME ONE THREE TIMES IF THEY SAW A MOUNTAIN LION IN THE FIRST INSTANCE. AND THESE ANIMALS DO NOT KILL FOR THE LOVE OF KILLING, AS HUMAN PREDATORS DO. THEY KILL FOR FOOD. AND I'M GOING TO REPEAT AGAIN, NATURE UNDERSTANDS HER ECOLOGY BETTER THAN ANY HUMAN BEINGS. AND WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN IN A GIVEN LOCATION, IT'S USUALLY BECAUSE HUMAN BEINGS HAVE INTERVENED AND UPSET WHAT USED TO BE CALLED THE BALANCE OF NATURE. THEY INTRODUCE AN INVASIVE SPECIES THAT WILL TAKE OVER. I THINK WE HAVE A BILL UP HERE COINCIDENTALLY THAT IS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCHILZ, LB142E, TO CREATE THE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM. THAT'S BECAUSE AN INVASIVE SPECIES CAME HERE AND IS RAISING HAVOC. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT SENATOR SCHILZ WANTS TO DO? HE WANTS TO LET THEM... [LB94 LB142]

SPEAKER HADLEY: TIME,... [LB94]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...ERADICATE AN ANIMAL... [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR, ONE MINUTE. [LB94]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: OH, YOU SAID TIME? [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB94]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ONE MINUTE? HE WANTS TO LET THESE VICIOUS HUNTERS, WHO DOMINATE THE GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION, ERADICATE A NATIVE SPECIES WHICH IS AT THE TOP OF THE PREDATOR CHAIN. I SUPPORTED HIS BILL EARLIER. AFTER THAT HEARING AND SEEING HIS ATTITUDE, I DON'T KNOW TODAY. I JUST DON'T KNOW. BUT BY THE TIME I GET TO THE BILL, I WILL KNOW. AND I WILL WITHDRAW THAT PENDING MOTION, MR. PRESIDENT. AND THE NEXT TIME I SPEAK, I WANT TO GIVE AN ASSURANCE TO THE SPEAKER. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE MOTION IS WITHDRAWN. WE WILL RETURN TO LB94. MR. CLERK. WILL YOU PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEATS FOR FINAL READING. [LB94]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB94 ON FINAL READING.) [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB94 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB94]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 659.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB94]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB94 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB107. [LB94 LB107]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN LB107 TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA22, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 660.) [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB107]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, SPEAKING DIRECTLY TO YOU, IN YOUR CAPACITY AS SPEAKER, WHERE YOU HAVE TO MANAGE THE AGENDA, I WILL NOT CONTINUE BEYOND 10:30. THAT WILL ALLOW 90 MINUTES. AND IF 5 MINUTES WOULD BE SPENT ON EACH BILL, AND MAYBE IT WON'T BE THAT MUCH TIME ON EACH BILL, THEN FINAL READING CAN BE ENDED THIS MORNING. MY INTENT IS NOT TO DO TODAY WHAT I ULTIMATELY WILL DO IF I'M FORCED TO DO IT. I JUST WANT TO GIVE A SAMPLE AND TO SHOW HOW IT CAN BE DONE. THEN RICKETTS' "CRICKETS," WHOEVER THEY ARE, CAN GO TALK TO THE GOVERNOR AND SAY, NOW WE KNOW WHAT HIS STRATEGY IS, NOW YOU'RE

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A BUSINESSMAN, YOU LAY A COUNTERSTRATEGY SO THAT WE CAN STOP HIM. AND MR. RICKETTS, GOVERNOR RICKETTS WOULD SAY, WELL, YOU'RE IN THE LEGISLATURE, CAN'T YOU FIGURE THAT OUT? AND THAT WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE QUESTION TO ASK. BUT IT'S EASY TO RESOLVE THIS AND THAT'S TO LET MY BILL GO. AND I BELIEVE THAT THE LEGISLATURE WILL VOTE TO PASS IT. LAST YEAR I HAD INDICATED, FOR THOSE WHO WERE NOT HERE, THAT IF MY BILL WERE TIED UP IN THE COMMITTEE, I WOULD OPPOSE EVERY PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT BENEFITED GAME AND PARKS. AND BEYOND THAT, IF THAT BILL WERE NOT PASSED, SAME THING. SO WHEN THE BILL GOT OUT OF COMMITTEE, SENATOR CARLSON SAID, WE DID THE FIRST THING. I SAID, RIGHT. WHEN THE LEGISLATURE VOTED TO PASS IT, THAT WAS THE NEXT THING. AND I SAID, YOU HAVE DONE...I WAS TALKING TO SENATOR AVERY. HE WAS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE. AND ALTHOUGH THAT BILL OF MINE WAS NOT IN HIS COMMITTEE, HE WAS TRYING TO GET SOME MONEY FOR GAME AND PARKS. SO I TOLD HIM AS SOON AS THE LEGISLATURE HAD VOTED TO PASS IT, THAT THAT WAS THE KEEPING ON THEIR SIDE OF EVERYTHING I HAD LAID DOWN AS A CONDITION TO MAKE ME STOP MESSING WITH BILLS FOR GAME AND PARKS. AND HE SAID, SUPPOSE IT'S VETOED? I SAID, WELL, WHAT I HAD SAID IS THAT THE LEGISLATURE HAS TO PASS THE BILL AND I'M NOT GOING TO CHANGE THE AGREEMENT AT THIS POINT. THE LEGISLATURE DID EVERYTHING THAT I HAD LAID DOWN AS A CONDITION AND THOSE CONDITIONS WERE MET. WHEN THE GOVERNOR VETOED THE BILL AND A COUPLE OF PEOPLE DESERTED WHEN TIME CAME TO OVERRIDE, I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR AVERY AND LET HIM KNOW THAT, AS DISTURBED AS I WAS ABOUT THE WAY THE OVERRIDE VOTE WENT, I WAS GOING TO STICK WITH THE AGREEMENT THAT I MADE AND I WOULD NOT BOTHER GAME AND PARKS BILLS. HE WAS RELIEVED. AND I'M SURE GAME AND PARKS WAS. LATER IN THE SESSION, THERE WERE A COUPLE OF BILLS THAT RELATED TO GAME AND PARKS. I THINK THERE WAS SOME MONEY BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM BY WAY OF THE BUDGET, AND I DIDN'T INTERFERE WITH ANY OF THEM. BUT TO HAVE THE RECORD COMPLETE, I ASKED SENATOR AVERY A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. AND THE MAIN ONE WAS, SENATOR AVERY, WAS THERE IN THE FORM OF LEGISLATION SOME LOW-HANGING GAME AND PARKS LEGISLATION THAT I EASILY COULD HAVE PLUCKED? AND HE SAID, YES. I SAID, DID I BOTHER IT? HE SAID, NO. I SAID, DID WE HAVE A CONVERSATION AND I PROMISED NOT TO BOTHER IT? HE SAID, YES. I SAID, HAVE I KEPT MY WORD? HE SAID, YES. AND I WANTED THAT IN THE RECORD. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CIRCUMSPECT IN DRAWING UP THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT. THIS TIME I HAVEN'T TRIED TO ESTABLISH ANY PARAMETERS OR PERIMETERS. BUT I KNOW IN MY MIND WHAT I'VE GOT TO DO TO PROTECT THESE ANIMALS WHEN I CAN

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SEE HOW CRAVENLY SOME SENATORS BEHAVE IN FRONT OF PEOPLE WHO COME AND TELL THEM LIES, FALSEHOODS, AND NONSENSE, AND THEY SWALLOW IT HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER. WHEN THESE PEOPLE, BY THE WAY, TELL YOU THAT THEY SEE THESE MOUNTAIN LIONS RUNNING AROUND IN THE DAYTIME, THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN. THEY DON'T GO OUT IN THE DAYTIME. AND MOUNTAIN LIONS ARE NOT LIKE AFRICAN LIONS. AFRICAN LIONS CLUMP TOGETHER. AND WHEN YOU HAVE A GROUP OF LIONS, THEY ARE REFERRED TO AS A PRIDE. MOUNTAIN LIONS DO NOT COMPRISE A PRIDE EVER. YOU MAY FIND A FEMALE WITH TWO KITTENS, ON OCCASION THREE, BUT THAT IS NOT A PRIDE. THEY DO NOT COME TOGETHER. THEY ARE NOT SOCIAL ANIMALS. THEY ARE SOLITARY. THEY ARE ELUSIVE. THEY ARE VIRTUALLY INVISIBLE. AND WITH THE SMALL NUMBER IN THIS STATE, IF GAME AND PARKS CANNOT MANAGE THOSE FEW, GAME AND PARKS NEEDS TO CEASE TO EXIST, AND I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO GET THAT DONE. I'D LIKE TO ASK SENATOR BLOOMQUIST (SIC) A QUESTION OR TWO IF HE'S WILLING TO YIELD. [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: BLOOMQUIST? [LB107]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: BLOOMFIELD. (LAUGHTER) [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, WOULD YOU YIELD TO A QUESTION? [LB107]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: YES, I WOULD. [LB107]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO SEE IF PEOPLE ARE PAYING ATTENTION. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED SITUATIONS WHERE GAME AND PARKS, THE WAY THEY AND THE COMMISSION OPERATED, POSED PROBLEMS WHICH SHOULD NOT HAVE EXISTED? [LB107]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: REPEATEDLY. [LB107]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: AND DO YOU THINK SOMETHING ALONG THE LINE OF WHAT I MENTIONED MAY BE IN ORDER WHERE WE HAVE THAT BECOME AN ELECTIVE-TYPE COMMISSION BASED ON DISTRICTS? [LB107]

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SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: SENATOR CHAMBERS, I THINK THAT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA. IF YOU WOULD DRAW UP SUCH A BILL, I WILL COSIGN IT AND COINTRODUCE IT WITH YOU NEXT YEAR. [LB107]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THAT'S ALL THE QUESTIONS THAT I WOULD ASK. AND I'M GOING TO QUOTE FROM A SONG: "WHO CAN ASK FOR ANYTHING MORE?" AND I'M THINKING ABOUT CRAFTING THAT AS AN AMENDMENT TO A BILL THAT IS BEFORE US. AND WHETHER IT GOES OR NOT, IT WOULD SHOW THE SERIOUSNESS OF MY INTENT. AND NEXT SESSION I AM GOING TO HAVE SUCH A BILL DRAFTED AND WILL FIGHT VERY HARD TO GET THAT BILL ENACTED INTO LAW. AND I WILL USE THE FEW TOOLS THAT I HAVE AND THAT'S TO TAKE TIME, TIME, TIME. SOME PEOPLE SAY TIME IS MONEY. HERE IT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED MORE THAN THAT. THIS MORNING, IF I GO BEYOND 10:30, THERE'S A CHANCE THAT WE MAY NOT FINISH FINAL READING. THAT IS NOT MY INTENT. MY INTENT IS TO DEMONSTRATE WHAT I WILL DO TO SHOW THAT I'M ABLE TO DO IT. AND THEN YOU'LL RECOGNIZE THE REAL THING WHEN IT COMES. BUT I'M ALSO GETTING A MESSAGE TO MR. DOUGLAS AND THOSE MEMBERS ON THAT COMMISSION THAT THEY HAVE NOT WON, NOR HAS CABELA'S. I HOPE SOMETHING COMES THROUGH HERE THAT I FIND OUT CABELA'S IS INTERESTED IN. THEY PLAY DIRTY POOL. BUT IF THE COMMITTEE IS GOING TO ALLOW ITSELF TO BE BULLIED, THAT'S ON THEM. BUT IF, AS A RESULT OF THEIR CONCEDED TO BE BULLIED BY CABELA'S AND THESE HUNTERS, AND IT HURTS MY INTERESTS, THEN FOLLOWING THE ADVICE OF JOSEPH KENNEDY, I WILL NOT GET MAD, I WILL GET EVEN. THAT'S WHAT HE SAID. BUT I MIGHT DO BOTH. MR. SPEAKER, I'M GOING TO NOT ONLY WITHDRAW THIS AMENDMENT BUT ANY OTHER PENDING MOTIONS THAT I HAVE UP THERE I WILL WITHDRAW AT THIS TIME SO THAT WE WON'T HAVE TO TAKE EACH ONE AND I STAND UP AND SAY, YES, I WITHDRAW THAT. I AM "BLANKETLY" WITHDRAWING ALL OF THE PENDING MOTIONS THAT I HAVE UP THERE. THANK YOU. [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. CLERK. [LB107]

ASSISTANT CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR KRIST WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL TO SELECT FILE FOR SPECIFIC AMENDMENT, THAT BEING STRIKE THE ENACTING CLAUSE. (FA26, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 660.) [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB107]

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SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES, AND GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. I WANT TO SAY A FEW, VERY QUICK THINGS FOR THE RECORD THIS MORNING. THE REASON I LOVE THIS PLACE IS THAT EVERY 1 OF THE 49 OF US HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF DOING EXACTLY WHAT SENATOR CHAMBERS IS DOING THIS MORNING. TAKE THE EXAMPLE. IF YOU BELIEVE IN SOMETHING STRONG ENOUGH, YOU CAN OWN THE SESSION YOURSELF. IN OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES IN THE TWO-HOUSE PARTY, IT WOULD BE THE SPEAKER WHO WOULD PULL A BILL OR NOT ALLOW A BILL TO COME FORWARD, OR THE WHIP, OR THE MAJORITY. WE SEE THIS HAPPEN IN THE CONGRESS. THIS IS THE POWER OF 49. UNDERSTAND IT, UNDERSTAND YOUR RULES, AND KNOW THAT IT IS POSSIBLE. UNTIL WE CHANGE THE RULES, SHOULD WE CHANGE THE RULES, THIS IS OUR POWER. UNDERSTANDING THAT, YOU'LL ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS SOME COLLEGIALLY INVOLVED WITH WHAT YOU WANT AND WHAT I WANT AND WHAT THE OTHER 48 WILL WANT. THAT'S COOPERATION. AND IF YOUR INTENT WOULD BE TO TALK ABOUT SENATOR CHAMBERS IN TERMS OF SHUTTING HIM DOWN...AND I GET TONS OF E-MAILS AND PHONE CALLS--CAN'T YOU SHUT THAT MAN UP? NO, BECAUSE IT'S HIS RIGHT AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, 1 OF 49. IT'S THE BEAUTIFUL THING ABOUT THIS LEGISLATURE. SO IF YOU CHOOSE TO SHUT HIM DOWN, YOU IN ESSENCE SHUT YOURSELF DOWN. THINK ABOUT THAT. TAKE THAT HOME THIS WEEKEND, LOOK AT THE RULE BOOK, AND REALIZE HOW BEAUTIFUL THIS INSTITUTION IS, THIS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS THAT WE BELONG TO. THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS, FOR ALLOWING THE REST OF THE DAY TO CONTINUE, BECAUSE I REALLY WANT TO GET LR32, LR33, AND LR34 OUT SO WE CAN GET VOLUNTEERS ON THOSE COMMITTEES. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME. THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER, AND I WILL WITHDRAW MY MOTION. [LB107 LR32 LR33 LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. CLERK, WE WILL CONTINUE WITH FINAL READING. MEMBERS SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR SEATS IN PREPARATION FOR CONTINUING FINAL READING. [LB107]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB107 ON FINAL READING.) [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB107 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL THOSE VOTED? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB107]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 660-661.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB107]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB107 PASSES. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) MR. CLERK. [LB107]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB116 ON FINAL READING.) [LB116]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB116 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB116]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 661.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB116]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB116 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB142E. [LB116 LB142]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB142 ON FINAL READING.) [LB142]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB142 PASS WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB142]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 662.) 46 AYES, 1 NAY, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB142]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB142 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB142A. [LB142 LB142A]

CLERK: (READ LB142A ON FINAL READING.) [LB142A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB142A PASS WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB142A]

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CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 662-663.) 46 AYES, 1 NAY, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB142A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB142A PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB194. [LB142A LB194]

CLERK: (READ LB194 ON FINAL READING.) [LB194]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB194 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB194]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 663.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB194]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB194 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB241. [LB194 LB241]

CLERK: (READ LB241 ON FINAL READING.) [LB241]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB241 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB241]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 664.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB241]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB241 PASSES. LB252. [LB241 LB252]

CLERK: (READ LB252 ON FINAL READING.) [LB252]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB252 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB252]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 664-665.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB252]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: LB252 PASSES. LB260E. [LB252 LB260]

CLERK: (READ LB260 ON FINAL READING.) [LB260]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB260 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB260]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 665-666.) 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB260]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB260 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB261. MR. CLERK. THE FIRST VOTE IS TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB260 LB261]

CLERK: 46 AYES, 1 NAY, MR. PRESIDENT, TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. [LB261]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE AT-LARGE READING IS DISPENSED WITH. MR. CLERK, PLEASE READ THE TITLE. [LB261]

CLERK: (READ TITLE OF LB261.) [LB261]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB261 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB261]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 666-667.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB261]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB261 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE. LB260 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE. WE'LL NOW GO TO LB261. I'M SORRY, WE WILL NOW GO TO LB266. THE FIRST VOTE IS TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB261 LB266]

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CLERK: 45 AYES, 1 NAY, MR. PRESIDENT, TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. [LB266]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE AT-LARGE READING IS DISPENSED WITH. MR. CLERK, PLEASE READ THE TITLE. [LB266]

CLERK: (READ TITLE OF LB266.) [LB266]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB266 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB266]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 667.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB266]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB266 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB269. [LB266 LB269]

CLERK: (READ LB269 ON FINAL READING.) [LB269]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB269 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB269]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 668.) 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB269]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB269 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB271. MR. CLERK, THE FIRST VOTE IS TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB269 LB271]

CLERK: 42 AYES, 1 NAY, MR. PRESIDENT, TO DISPENSE WITH THE AT-LARGE READING. [LB271]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE AT-LARGE READING IS DISPENSED WITH. MR. CLERK, PLEASE READ THE TITLE. [LB271]

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CLERK: (READ TITLE OF LB271.) [LB271]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB271 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB271]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 669.) THE VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB271]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB271 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB286. [LB271 LB286]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB286 ON FINAL READING.) [LB286]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB286 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB286]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 669-670.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB286]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB286 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB301. [LB286 LB301]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB301 ON FINAL READING.) [LB301]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB301 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB301]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 670.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB301]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB301 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB305. [LB301 LB305]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB305 ON FINAL READING.) [LB305]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB305, ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB305 PASS WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE...WITHOUT THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB305]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 671.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB305]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB305 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED. WE'LL NOW PROCEED TO LB312. [LB305 LB312]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB312 ON FINAL READING.) [LB312]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB312 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB312]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 671-672.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB312]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB312 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB314. [LB312 LB314]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB314 ON FINAL READING.) [LB314]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB314 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB314]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 672.) THE VOTE IS 47 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB314]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB314 PASSES. WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION AND CAPABLE OF TRANSACTING BUSINESS, I PROPOSE TO SIGN AND DO HEREBY SIGN

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LB52, LB87, LB90, LB94, LB107, LB116, LB142E, LB142AE, LB194, LB241, LB252, LB260E, LB261, LB266, LB269, LB271, LB286E, LB301, LB305E, LB312, AND LB314. MR. CLERK, ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS? [LB314 LB52 LB87 LB90 LB94 LB107 LB116 LB142 LB142A LB194 LB241 LB252 LB260 LB261 LB266 LB269 LB271 LB286 LB301 LB305 LB312 LB314]

CLERK: YES, SIR, I DO. HEARING NOTICE FROM THE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS COMMITTEE. AMENDMENTS: SENATOR MORFELD TO LB439, SENATOR SCHUMACHER, LB279. THE SECOND HEARING NOTICE FROM BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE. MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR KOLOWSKI OFFERS LR88 AND LR89. THOSE WILL BOTH BE LAID OVER. AND YOUR BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY SENATOR HARR, REPORTS LB599 AND LB627 TO GENERAL FILE, WITH AMENDMENTS ATTACHED. THAT'S ALL THAT I HAVE, THANK YOU. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 673-677.) [LB439 LB279 LR88 LR89 LB599 LB627]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. MR. CLERK, WE'LL PROCEED TO CONFIRMATION REPORTS.

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE TWO REPORTS FROM JUDICIARY. SENATOR SEILER, THE FIRST REPORT INVOLVES THE APPOINTMENT OF DARRELL FISHER AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 570.)

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR SEILER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON THE CONFIRMATION REPORT.

SENATOR SEILER: MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE UNICAMERAL, ON FEBRUARY 20, THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE CONFIRMATION OF DARRELL FISHER TO THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. MR. FISHER WAS PREVIOUSLY APPOINTED AND CONFIRMED IN 2014 TO THE SAME POSITION. PRIOR TO BEING A COMMISSIONER...TO THE COMMISSION, MR. FISHER WORKED FOR THE STATE PATROL FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS AND SERVED ON NUMEROUS COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS. HE HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE THIS YEAR AND HAS BROUGHT US VERY HELPFUL INFORMATION. DIRECTOR FISHER IS EMINENTLY QUALIFIED FOR HIS POSITION AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL

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JUSTICE, AND I URGE YOUR SUPPORT AND A GREEN VOTE FOR HIS CONFIRMATION.

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, I HOPE MY SPEAKING IN BEHALF OF THIS MAN WILL NOT HURT HIS CHANCES. I WAS VERY IMPRESSED NOT ONLY WITH WHAT HIS CREDENTIALS ARE, BUT WITH THE WAY HE HAS HANDLED HIS DUTIES UP TO NOW. ONE THING HE STATED...FIRST OF ALL, HE TRIES TO PROCESS COMPLAINTS THAT ARE MADE AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER AND HE SAID HE HAD EITHER TWO OR THREE FRIENDS WHO NO LONGER SPEAK TO HIM BECAUSE THEY WERE THE SUBJECTS OF COMPLAINTS AND HE DID WHAT IT WAS REQUIRED TO DO UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. SO WHEN A MAN HAS ALL OF THE THINGS GOING FOR HIMSELF THAT MR. FISHER HAS, HE'S ONE OF THE FEW THAT I WOULD EVER SAY COULD GO TO HEAVEN WITHOUT DYING. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.

SPEAKER HADLEY: SEEING NO ONE ELSE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR SEILER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE ON THE REPORT. SENATOR SEILER WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OFFERED BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK.

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 677-678.) 40 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE CONFIRMATION REPORT.

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE REPORT IS ADOPTED.

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE A SECOND REPORT FROM JUDICIARY INVOLVING THE APPOINTMENT OF SCOTT FRAKES AS THE DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 570.)

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR SEILER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON THE CONFIRMATION REPORT.

SENATOR SEILER: MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE UNICAMERAL, IT'S A GREAT HONOR OF MINE TO PRESENT THAT ON FEBRUARY 20, THE JUDICIARY

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COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE CONFIRMATION OF SCOTT FRAKES TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. DIRECTOR FRAKES COMES TO US FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON WHERE HE SERVED THE DEPARTMENT FOR OVER 30 YEARS. HE BEGAN AS A CORRECTION OFFICER AND ADVANCED THROUGH THE RANKS AND WHEN WE HIRED HIM, HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND OVERSAW 2,800 STAFF AND 8,000 OFFENDERS. DURING HIS TIME IN WASHINGTON AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, DIRECTOR FRAKES HAS WON NUMEROUS AWARDS, INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR'S DISTINGUISHED MANAGEMENT AWARD IN 2008. HE HAS MET WITH THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ON A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS THIS YEAR, AND BEFORE US HE GAVE US VERY USEFUL AND WELL-THOUGHT-OUT POSITIONS. DIRECTOR FRAKES IS ABSOLUTELY QUALIFIED FOR HIS POSITION AS DIRECTOR OF THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND I URGE YOUR SUPPORT AND VOTE...AND ASK YOU TO VOTE GREEN ON HIS CONFIRMATION.

SPEAKER HADLEY: IS THERE ANYONE WHO WISHES TO SPEAK ON THE CONFIRMATION REPORT? SEEING NONE, SENATOR SEILER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO WAIVE. SENATOR SEILER WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OFFERED BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK.

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL 678.) 41 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE CONFIRMATION REPORT.

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE CONFIRMATION REPORT IS ADOPTED. MR. CLERK.

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LR32 WAS A RESOLUTION ORIGINALLY INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KRIST ON JANUARY 20 OF THIS YEAR. THE RESOLUTION WAS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR PURPOSES OF CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING. IT ASKED THE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE AND APPOINT...REAPPOINT A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE KNOWN AS THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE. THE RESOLUTION WAS REPORTED BACK TO THE FLOOR FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. THERE ARE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS PENDING BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, MR. PRESIDENT. (AM331, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 571.)
[LR32]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON LR32.
[LR32]

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SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE FIRST FEW WORDS AND THEN YOU CAN TUNE ME OUT AFTER THAT. THESE NEXT THREE, LR32, LR33, AND LR34, RECONSTITUTE SPECIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES THAT WILL FUNCTION AS LEGISLATIVE ARMS IN OVERSIGHT FUNCTION. THAT LETTER TO ALL OF YOU WILL GO OUT BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY ASKING WHO WOULD WANT TO BE ON THESE NEXT THREE LRS, LR32, LR33, AND LR34. I WOULD ASK YOU...AND THE DEADLINE WILL BE IN THERE FOR YOU TO RETURN THEM TO ME BY THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK, BY WEDNESDAY OF NEXT WEEK, SO THAT WE CAN MOVE ON IT AND RECONSTITUTE THE COMMITTEES. LR32 REAUTHORIZES THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE. THIS SPECIAL COMMITTEE WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED IN 2008 BY LR283; REAUTHORIZED IN 2009 BY LR11, FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD; LR47 IN 2011; LR365 IN '12; AND LR20 IN '13. WHY? WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? BECAUSE THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM AT THE BEATRICE STATE HOME WAS UNDER SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSENT DECREE AND WE LOST ALMOST \$80 MILLION WORTH OF FUNDING. THIS OVERSIGHT NEEDS TO BE CONTINUED BECAUSE THE DECREE HAS NOT BEEN LIFTED, AND I WOULD ASK YOU...APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN ADOPTING LR32 AND THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT, WHICH I WILL DISCUSS NEXT. [LR32]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AS THE CLERK STATED, THERE ARE AMENDMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. SENATOR KRIST, AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON THE AMENDMENTS. [LR32]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT MAKES THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: CHANGES PROVISIONS TO CLARIFY THAT THE STUDY SHOULD INCLUDE A REVIEW OF BOTH INSTITUTIONALLY BASED SERVICES AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES. SO IT'S AN EXTENSION TO COMMUNITY-BASED. IT REQUIRES A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BRIEF THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE BY DECEMBER 15 OF 2015, AND DECEMBER 15 OF 2016. THE REQUIREMENT IS...FOR REPORT IS CHANGED TO AS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT ON THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT AND THE UNDERLYING LR32. [LR32]

SPEAKER HADLEY: WE'VE HEARD THE OPENING AND THE AMENDMENTS. IS THERE ANYONE WHO WISHES TO SPEAK TO THE AMENDMENTS? SEEING NONE, SENATOR KRIST...SENATOR KRIST WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION FOR US IS THE ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE COMMITTEE STATEMENT. ALL

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THOSE IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE; OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR32]

CLERK: 41 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. [LR32]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AM331 IS ADOPTED. ANYONE WHO WISHES TO SPEAK ON LR32? SEEING NONE, SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE. SENATOR KRIST WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LR34...OR LR32 PASS? ALL IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY VOTING AYE; OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR32]

CLERK: 38 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION. [LR32]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LR32 IS ADOPTED. MR. CLERK, WE'LL GO TO LR33. [LR32 LR33]

CLERK: LR33, A RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KRIST ON JANUARY 20 OF THIS YEAR. AT THAT TIME IT WAS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. IT CALLS FOR THE RECONSTITUTION OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE KNOWN AS ACCESSNEBRASKA SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE. THE RESOLUTION WAS REPORTED BACK TO THE FLOOR. THERE ARE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS, MR. PRESIDENT. (AM310, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 572.) [LR33]

SPEAKER HADLEY: (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON LR33. [LR33]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. LR33 REAUTHORIZES THE ACCESSNEBRASKA SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WAS ORIGINALLY CREATED IN 2014 BY LR400. THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE ONGOING OVERSIGHT FOR ACCESSNEBRASKA SYSTEM AND CONTINUE TO STUDY: THE ADEQUACY OF STAFFING/TRAINING WITHIN THE ACCESSNEBRASKA SYSTEM; THE ADEQUACY OF TECHNOLOGY USED WITHIN THE SYSTEM; THE EFFECTIVENESS AND THE PROCESSES AND STRUCTURES USED BY THE SYSTEM; AND THE NEED FOR NEW AND ADDITIONAL DATA COLLECTION TO DETERMINE SYSTEM EFFECTIVENESS. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO ANALYZE THE EXPERIENCE OF CLIENTS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS; EXAMINE CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE;

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ACCESS TO BENEFITS; AND RESPONSES TO CHANGING FAMILY NEEDS. WE VOTED IT OUT UNANIMOUSLY. I'D APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN ADOPTING LR33. [LR33]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AS THE CLERK STATED, THERE ARE AMENDMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. SENATOR KRIST, AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON THE AMENDMENTS. [LR33]

SENATOR KRIST: COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: PROVIDES THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL APPOINT THE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIR OF THESE COMMITTEES INSTEAD OF THE COMMITTEES SELECTING THESE POSITIONS. THIS CHANGE MAKES THE SELECTION PROCESS CONSISTENT FOR ALL THREE SPECIAL COMMITTEES. REQUIRES THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BRIEF THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE BY DECEMBER 15 OF 2015. THE REQUIREMENT FOR A REPORT IS CHANGED TO BE, "AS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT." THE ACCESSNEBRASKA SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO CONTINUE UNTIL THE START OF THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR AM310 AND THE UNDERLYING LR33. [LR33]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR HOWARD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR33]

SENATOR HOWARD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I RISE IN SUPPORT OF LR33 AND AM310. I SERVED AS VICE CHAIR OF THE INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE ACCESSNEBRASKA TASK FORCE, AND IT WAS MY PLEASURE TO TRAVEL THE STATE AND VISIT ACCESSNEBRASKA OFFICES ALL OVER NEBRASKA FROM SCOTTSBLUFF TO LEXINGTON, NORFOLK, OMAHA, AND WHAT I SAW WAS A SYSTEM THAT CONTINUES TO NEED OUR GUIDANCE AND OVERSIGHT. AND SO WITH THAT, I WOULD URGE THE BODY TO ADOPT BOTH THE AMENDMENT AND THE RESOLUTION. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR33]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SEEING NO ONE ELSE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR KRIST WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL THE AMENDMENT TO THE LR...COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO THE LR33 PASS? ALL IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY VOTING AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. HAVE ALL THOSE VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR33]

CLERK: 33 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. [LR33]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: SEEING NO ONE IN THE QUEUE. SENATOR KRIST WAIVES CLOSING ON LR33. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LR33 BE ADOPTED? ALL IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE...OR VOTING AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. HAVE ALL THOSE VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR33]

CLERK: 33 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR33. [LR33]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LR33 IS ADOPTED. MR. CLERK. [LR33]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LR34, THE NEXT RESOLUTION, OFFERED BY SENATOR KRIST, READ ON JANUARY 20 OF THIS YEAR. IT WAS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONSTITUTES THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE. THE RESOLUTION WAS ADVANCED TO THE FLOOR FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. THERE ARE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. (AM290, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 508.) [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON LR34. [LR34]

SENATOR KRIST: LR34 REAUTHORIZES THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE. SPECIAL COMMITTEE WAS FIRST CREATED IN 2014 BY LR424. LR424 SPECIAL COMMITTEE ISSUED A REPORT ON DECEMBER 15, 2014, WHICH IDENTIFIED ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS WITH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES. LR34 PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE OVERSIGHT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND WOULD SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZE THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE ADEQUACY AND FUNDING HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMS; THE AVAILABILITY OF MENTAL HEALTHCARE AND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES USED TO ENSURE INMATES--THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT--RECEIVE APPROPRIATE MENTAL HEALTHCARE; POLICIES RELATING TO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, SEGREGATION, AND OTHER ISOLATION ISSUES; THE TRANSITION OF INMATES FROM INCARCERATION TO COMMUNITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES; THE ADMINISTRATION OF GOOD TIME LAWS; AND THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICIES AND PRACTICES. I'D APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN ADOPTING LR34. [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AS REPORTED, THERE ARE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED AS CHAIR OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO OPEN ON AM290. [LR34]

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SENATOR KRIST: THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT MAKES THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE RESOLUTION: INCREASES THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED IN THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FROM 7 TO UP TO 11, IN QUOTES, "UP TO ELEVEN." THAT WOULD CONFIRM JURISDICTION OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE IS THE BASE WITH SEVERAL OTHER FOLKS, IF THEY WOULD WANT TO PARTICIPATE, TO BE ADDED; IT PROVIDES THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL APPOINT THE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE INSTEAD OF THE COMMITTEE SELECTING THESE POSITIONS AND THIS CHANGE AGAIN HARMONIZES THE SELECTION PROCESS CONSISTENT FOR ALL THREE SPECIAL COMMITTEES; REMOVES THE LANGUAGE REGARDING THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE NEBRASKA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS. THE LANGUAGE IS INCLUDED IN OTHER LEGISLATION. AND IT REQUIRES: THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BRIEF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE BY DECEMBER 15 OF 2015 AND ALSO '16; THE REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT IS CHANGED TO "AS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT;" EXTENDS THE TERMINATION DATE OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, SO TWO YEARS. AND I'D APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT OF AM290. [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SEEING NO ONE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE. SENATOR KRIST WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO LR34 BE ADOPTED? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR34]

CLERK: 33 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS. [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE AMENDMENTS TO LR34 ARE ADOPTED. SEEING NO ONE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE ON LR34. [LR34]

SENATOR KRIST: JUST ANOTHER REMINDER: AFTER WE PASS LR34, ALL THREE OF THESE WILL BE OFFERED TO YOU, TO MEMBERS, TO BECOME A PART OF THESE SPECIAL COMMITTEES. THE LETTER WILL BE OUT BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY. WHEN YOU ELECT TO TRY TO BECOME PART OF THESE COMMITTEES, I'D ALSO ASK YOU TO SIGNIFY IF YOU'D LIKE TO CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR THESE PARTICULAR COMMITTEES. WITH THAT, I'D ASK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR LR34. [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF LR34. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR34]

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CLERK: 35 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION. [LR34]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LR34 IS ADOPTED. MR. CLERK, WE'LL RETURN TO GENERAL FILE. [LR34]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, FIRST BILL, LB146. (READ TITLE.) THE BILL WAS INTRODUCED ON JANUARY 9 OF THIS YEAR, REFERRED TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, ADVANCED TO GENERAL FILE. THERE ARE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS, MR. PRESIDENT. (AM142, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 449.) [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CRAWFORD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON LB146. [LB146]

SENATOR CRAWFORD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. LB146 ESTABLISHES A VOLUNTARY PROCESS FOR FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE UNCLAIMED CREMATED REMAINS OF VETERANS RECEIVE A DIGNIFIED BURIAL IN A VETERAN CEMETERY. UNDER THE BILL, FUNERAL DIRECTORS MAY WORK DIRECTLY WITH VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS IF NEXT OF KIN HAVE NOT STEPPED FORWARD 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF CREMATION. FUNERAL DIRECTORS BEGIN THE PROCESS BY CONTACTING THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE REMAINS ARE THOSE OF A VETERAN, OR A DEPENDENT OF A VETERAN, AND WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR BURIAL IN A VETERANS CEMETERY. IF THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONFIRMS THE INDIVIDUAL'S ELIGIBILITY, THE FUNERAL HOME CAN WORK DIRECTLY WITH A VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION TO SECURE THE BURIAL OF THE REMAINS. AT THIS POINT IN THE PROCESS, THE VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION MUST SECURE THE REMAINS FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE YEAR BEFORE INTERNMENT AND MAKE REASONABLE EFFORTS TO LOCATE NEXT OF KIN. ONCE THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR TRANSFERS REMAINS TO THE VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION, THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR MUST KEEP A RECORD OF THE TRANSFER FOR A MINIMUM OF FIVE YEARS. I UNDERSTAND THAT MOST VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED IN THIS WORK, INCLUDING MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT, ALSO KEEP THEIR OWN RECORDS, AS DO VETERANS CEMETERIES WHERE THE VETERANS ARE EVENTUALLY INTERNED. MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT IS A NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION RUN SOLELY ON

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DONATIONS BY VOLUNTEERS. THEIR MISSION IS TO LOCATE, IDENTIFY, AND SECURE A FINAL RESTING PLACE FOR THE UNCLAIMED CREMATED REMAINS OF VETERANS. TO ACHIEVE THIS MISSION, MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT WORKS WITH FUNERAL DIRECTORS, THE STATE AND FEDERAL VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, AND FAMILIES. FAMILIES ARE NEVER CHARGED FOR THESE SERVICES. SINCE 2013, THE NEBRASKA CHAPTER OF MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT HAS ARRANGED FOR BURIAL WITH FULL MILITARY HONORS FOR 29 OF THESE VETERANS. THERE COULD BE AS MANY AS 200 MORE OF THESE UNCLAIMED VETERAN REMAINS IN NEBRASKA. IN SOME CASES, MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT LOCATES NEXT OF KIN WHO DID NOT KNOW THEIR LOVED ONE HAD PASSED AWAY. SOMETIMES FAMILIES ARE RELUCTANT TO COME FORWARD BECAUSE THEY'RE CONCERNED ABOUT AFFORDING BURIAL COSTS. IN OTHER INSTANCES, THESE SERVICE MEMBERS OUTLIVED THEIR FAMILIES OR BECAME ESTRANGED FROM THE FAMILY, AND THERE IS NO ONE LEFT TO MAKE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, HAZEL EVELYN WOOD, A SOUTH OMAHA RESIDENT, SERVED IN THE WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS IN WORLD WAR II. WHEN SHE DIED IN 2013, SHE HAD OUTLIVED HER FAMILY. LB146 RECEIVED NO OPPOSITION AT THE HEARING AND ADVANCED UNANIMOUSLY FROM THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE. PROPONENTS OF THE LEGISLATION INCLUDE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT, NEBRASKA VETERANS COUNCIL, GOOD SHEPHERD FUNERAL HOME, AND NEBRASKA FUNERAL HOME DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION. FUNERAL DIRECTORS WORK TIRELESSLY WITH GRIEVING FAMILIES EVERY DAY TO ENSURE THEIR LOVED ONES ARE TREATED WITH CARE AND RESPECT, WHICH IS A TOUGH JOB. LB146 PROVIDES AN ADDITIONAL TOOL FOR FUNERAL DIRECTORS IN CASES WHERE FAMILY MEMBERS CANNOT BE FOUND OR HAVE LOST CONTACT WITH THEIR VETERAN FAMILY MEMBER OVER THE YEARS. I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR LB146 TO ENSURE THE UNCLAIMED REMAINS OF VETERANS RECEIVE THE DIGNIFIED BURIAL THEY DESERVE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AS THE CLERK STATED, THERE ARE AMENDMENTS FROM THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE. SENATOR CAMPBELL, AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON THE AMENDMENTS. [LB146]

SENATOR CAMPBELL: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. COLLEAGUES, THE AMENDMENT IS FAIRLY SIMPLE TO FOLLOW. AM142 TO LB146 ADDS ANOTHER NONPROFIT DESIGNATION AND REDUCES THE THRESHOLD FOR LIABILITY FROM GROSS NEGLIGENCE AND WILLFUL CONDUCT TO NEGLIGENCE AND MISCONDUCT. AND THAT IS ALL THAT IS NEEDED IN THE AMENDMENT. I WOULD

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HEARTILY ENCOURAGE YOUR GREEN VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT AND THIS BILL TO HONOR OUR VETERANS. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THOSE IN THE QUEUE ARE SENATORS KOLTERMAN, BLOOMFIELD, AND KRIST. SENATOR KOLTERMAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR KOLTERMAN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I RISE IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL. MOST IMPORTANTLY, I'D LIKE TO THANK SENATOR CRAWFORD FOR BRINGING THIS BILL TO US AND ALSO THE MANY DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS THAT ARE HELPING WITH THIS PROJECT. WE HEARD SOME VERY INTRIGUING AND TIRELESSLY WORKING PEOPLE THAT ARE TRYING TO MAKE THIS THING A REALITY. THEY DO ALL THIS AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE AND I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO SUPPORT THIS AND VOTE GREEN ON IT. THANK YOU. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING COLLEAGUES. I RISE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF LB146. TOO MANY OF MY BROTHERS FROM THE VIETNAM WAR ARE IN THIS CATEGORY. THEY HAVE SHUFFLED OFF THE PAGES AS FAR AS THEIR FAMILIES ARE CONCERNED. WE OWE THEM, AT LEAST, THE HONOR OF A DECENT BURIAL. AND, AGAIN, PLEASE VOTE TO SUPPORT THIS BILL. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING AGAIN, COLLEAGUES, AND GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE LATEST STATISTICS RUN INTO THE 20 TO 30 PERCENTILE OF FOLKS WHO ARE HOMELESS IN THIS COUNTRY WHO ARE VETERANS, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT YOU WOULDN'T JUST HAVE TO OUTLIVE YOUR DEPENDENTS, YOU COULD BE ONE OF THE LOST VETERANS. PRETTY SAD. THIS BILL GIVES RESPECT TO THOSE WHO SERVED. AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE TAKE A STEP BACK AND LOOK AT WHAT THE LIABILITIES HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO. AND I THINK THE COMMITTEE DID A GREAT JOB IN MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR THESE ORGANIZATIONS TO COME FORWARD AND DO WHAT THEY NEED TO DO AND REDUCING THOSE LIABILITIES. THE AMENDMENT IS A GOOD ONE, AM142. IT HELPS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE PROCESS. IT'S NOT EASY TO RAISE MONEY OR TO TAKE MONEY OUT OF YOUR OWN POCKET TO

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DO THINGS AND THEN LOOK AT A POTENTIAL LIABILITY THAT COULD HINDER YOU IN GOING FORWARD, PARTICULARLY THOSE BUSINESSES, THE FUNERAL HOMES, ETCETERA. THE BILL, LB146, BY ITSELF SHOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED AN AMENDMENT, BUT THE AMENDMENT IS, AS I SAID, A GOOD ONE. THE IDEA THAT WE TAKE CARE OF OUR VETS, NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE OR WHEN WE FIND THEM, TO IDENTIFY THEM AND GIVE THEM A PROPER BURIAL IS RESPECT DUE FOR THEIR SERVICE. I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF AM142 AND THE UNDERLYING LB146. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR GARRETT, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR GARRETT: THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER. I, TOO, RISE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SENATOR CRAWFORD'S BILL AND THE UNDERLYING AMENDMENT. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE A LONG TIME AGO AND WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR HOMELESS VETERANS ARE PROPERLY BURIED. I URGE YOUR STRONG SUPPORT OF LB146. THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR BRASCH, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. SENATOR BRASCH, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR BRASCH: THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER AND COLLEAGUES. I ALSO STAND IN SUPPORT OF AM142 AND LB146. I BELIEVE THIS IS IMPORTANT AND OF THE UTMOST RESPECT TO OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS. IN OUR OFFICE, WE'VE BEEN MADE AWARE OF SOLDIERS THAT ARE STILL LAYING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES THAT WE ARE TRYING TO WORK WITH OUR FEDERAL DELEGATION TO BRING THEM HOME. I'M HOPING THAT THERE IS SOME WAY THAT WE CAN BE MORE EXPEDITIOUS IN BRINGING OUR VETERANS HOME TO REST WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND TAKE CARE OF ALL THE DETAILS THAT WE NEED. AND IN THANKS TO THE FAMILIES AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIFE, I AM IN STRONG SUPPORT OF AM142 AND LB146. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND COLLEAGUES. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: SENATOR CRAIGHEAD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB146]

SENATOR CRAIGHEAD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. I'D LIKE TO JUST ECHO WHAT EVERYONE ELSE HAS SAID. I AM VERY MUCH IN SUPPORT OF LB146. THANK YOU, SENATOR CRAWFORD, FOR INTRODUCING. AND I DO BELIEVE THAT WE OWE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE MILITARY THE BEST BURIAL THAT WE CAN. THANK YOU. [LB146]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: SEEING NO ONE ELSE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR CAMPBELL, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE ON AM142. SENATOR CAMPBELL WAIVES CLOSING ON AM142. QUESTION BEFORE US IS THE ADOPTION OF AM142. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB146]

CLERK: 31 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: AM142 IS ADOPTED. SEEING NO ONE ELSE WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR CRAWFORD, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE ON LB146. [LB146]

SENATOR CRAWFORD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES. I APPRECIATE YOUR KIND WORDS AND I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE VETERANS, OFTEN HOMELESS VETERANS, WHO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE RECEIVE THE DIGNIFIED BURIAL THAT THEY DESERVE. I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THOSE VETERANS AND URGE YOUR GREEN VOTE ON LB146. THANK YOU. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: THE QUESTION BEFORE US IS THE ADOPTION OF LB146. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY VOTING AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED, NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB146]

CLERK: 36 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF LB146. [LB146]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB146 IS ADVANCED TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. MR. CLERK. [LB146]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, ITEMS. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR SMITH REPORTS LB39 AS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED. AN AMENDMENT BY SENATOR BRASCH TO BE PRINTED TO LB179. SENATOR JOHNSON OFFERS LR90. AND BILLS READ ON FINAL READING THIS MORNING WERE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR AT 11:40 A.M. (RE LB52, LB87, LB90, LB94, LB107, LB116, LB142, LB142A, LB194, LB241, LB252, LB260, LB261, LB266, LB269, LB271, LB286, LB301, LB305, LB312, LB314.) I HAVE A SERIES OF NAME ADDS: SENATORS LARSON, DAVIS, COASH TO LB599; SENATOR KOLTERMAN, McCOLLISTER, DAVIS, KRIST TO LB268; AND SENATOR GROENE TO LB329; AND SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, LB599.

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

Floor Debate
February 27, 2015

(LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 679-680.) [LB39 LB179 LR90 LB52 LB87 LB90 LB94
LB107 LB116 LB142 LB142A LB194 LB241 LB252 LB260 LB261 LB266 LB269 LB271
LB286 LB301 LB305 LB312 LB314 LB599 LB268 LB329]

MR. PRESIDENT, PRIORITY MOTION. SENATOR LARSON WOULD MOVE TO
ADJOURN THE BODY UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 2, AT 10:00 A.M.

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE. OPPOSED, NAY.
MOTION PASSES. WE ARE ADJOURNED.