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Floor Debate
May 29, 2015

[LB70 LB70A LB259 LB315 LB315A LB452 LB457 LB468 LB468A LB540 LB577 LB581A LB581 LR23 LR356 LR357 LR358 LR359 LR360 LR361 LR362 LR363 LR364 LR365 LR366 LR367 LR368 LR369 LR370 LR371 LR372 LR373 LR374 LR375 LR376 LR377]

SPEAKER HADLEY PRESIDING

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

SENATOR SULLIVAN: (PRAYER OFFERED.)

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

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

SPEAKER HADLEY: ANY CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL?

CLERK: I HAVE NO CORRECTIONS.

SPEAKER HADLEY: ANY MESSAGES, REPORTS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS?

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, A TRANSMITTAL LETTER FROM THE CLERK TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGARDING LB70 AND LB70A. A COMMUNICATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO THE INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY TASK FORCE; THAT'S OFFERED BY SENATOR KRIST AS CHAIR. AGENCY REPORTS RECEIVED, ACKNOWLEDGED, ON FILE, AND AVAILABLE FOR MEMBER REVIEW ON THE LEGISLATIVE WEB SITE. AND THE LOBBY REPORT AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW, MR. PRESIDENT, TO BE INSERTED IN THE JOURNAL. THAT'S ALL THAT I HAVE. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 1939-1940.) [LB70 LB70A]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: THE DOUGHNUT FOR EACH SENATOR, AND DOUGHNUTS FOR SENATOR KINTNER, (LAUGHTER) ARE FROM SENATOR HUGHES FOR HIS BIRTHDAY NEXT WEEK AND FOR THE SAFE ARRIVAL OF HIS GRANDSON. 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 LB315. [LB315]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB315 ON FINAL READING.) [LB315]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB315 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED THAT WISH TO? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB315]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1941.) VOTE IS 44 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB315]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB315 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB315A. [LB315 LB315A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB315A ON FINAL READING.) [LB315A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB315A PASS? ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB315A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 1941-1942.) VOTE IS 44 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB315A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB315A PASSES. MR. CLERK, WE WILL PROCEED TO LB452. [LB315A LB452]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB452 ON FINAL READING.) [LB452]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB452 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB452]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1942.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB452]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB452 PASSES. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) MR. CLERK, WE WILL PROCEED TO LB457. [LB452 LB457]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB457 ON FINAL READING.) [LB457]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB457 PASS WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB457]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1943.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB457]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB457 PASSES WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED. (VISITORS AND DOCTOR OF THE DAY INTRODUCED.) MR. CLERK, WE WILL PROCEED TO LB540. [LB457 LB540]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB540 ON FINAL READING.) [LB540]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB540 PASS? ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB540]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1944.) VOTE IS 46 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB540]

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SPEAKER HADLEY: LB540 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB577. [LB540 LB577]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB577 ON FINAL READING.) [LB577]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB577 PASS? ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB577]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 1944-1945.) VOTE IS 45 AYES, 1 NAY, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB577]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB577 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB581. [LB577 LB581]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB581 ON FINAL READING.) [LB581]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB581 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB581]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1945.) VOTE IS 41 AYES, 4 NAYS, 2 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 2 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB581]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB581 PASSES. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO LB581A. [LB581 LB581A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (READ LB581A ON FINAL READING.) [LB581A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB581A PASS? ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE ALL VOTED THAT WISH? RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LB581A]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1946.)
VOTE IS 40 AYES, 4 NAYS, 4 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 1 EXCUSED AND NOT
VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB581A]

SPEAKER HADLEY: LB581A PASSES. WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION AND
CAPABLE OF TRANSACTING BUSINESS, I PROPOSE TO SIGN AND DO HEREBY SIGN
LB315, LB315A, LB452, LB457 WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE, LB540, LB577,
LB581, AND LB581A. MR. CLERK. [LB581A LB315 LB315A LB452 LB457 LB540 LB577
LB581]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, PROCEEDING WITH THE SPEAKER'S AGENDA, LR371 IS A
RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KOLTERMAN. IT ASKS THE
LEGISLATURE TO CONGRATULATE THE MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM OF
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY. [LR371]

SENATOR KRIST PRESIDING

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR KOLTERMAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR371]

SENATOR KOLTERMAN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING,
COLLEAGUES. ON BEHALF OF THE CONCORDIA MEN'S TRACK TEAM, THEY
FINISHED FIRST AT THE NAIA NATIONAL TRACK MEET IN GULF SHORES,
ALABAMA. I'D LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THEM. ALSO AT THAT MEET WAS DOANE
COLLEGE FROM SENATOR EBKE'S DISTRICT. IT FINISHED TIED FOR SEVENTH. SO I
WOULD PROPOSE THAT YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THE UNIVERSITY, AND THANK YOU.
[LR371]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU FOR THE OPENING, SENATOR KOLTERMAN. SEEING
NO ONE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR KOLTERMAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE.
AND HE WAIVES. THE QUESTION IS THE APPROVAL OF LR371. ALL THOSE IN
FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. HAVE ALL THOSE VOTED THAT WISH TO?
PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR371]

CLERK: 43 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR371. [LR371]

SENATOR KRIST: LR371 IS ADOPTED. NEXT ITEM. [LR371]

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CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LR372 IS OFFERED BY SENATOR MELLO AND THE MEMBERSHIP. IT'S A RESOLUTION ASKING THE LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND ITS SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF OFFICER KERRIE OROZCO AND RECOGNIZE HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR MELLO, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR372]

SENATOR MELLO: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE. ALL 49 SENATORS HAVE BROUGHT THIS RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF OFFICER KERRIE SUE HOLTZ OROZCO WHO DIED WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015, AFTER BEING SHOT IN THE LINE OF DUTY. OFFICER OROZCO WAS A SEVEN-YEAR VETERAN OF THE OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND JOINED THE METRO AREA FUGITIVE TASK FORCE IN 2012. SHE WAS RESPECTED BY HER COLLEAGUES NOT ONLY FOR HER SERVICE IN THE OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT, BUT FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE GREATER OMAHA COMMUNITY. OFFICER OROZCO IMPACTED COUNTLESS LIVES ON AND OFF DUTY. HER DEVOTION TO A LIFE OF SERVICE AND HER ULTIMATE SACRIFICE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN. OFFICER OROZCO WAS FLUENT IN SPANISH AND SERVED AS AN OMAHA POLICE INTERPRETER. SHE WAS ACTIVE BOTH IN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH OMAHA COMMUNITIES AND BEGAN COACHING BASEBALL FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IN 2009 AS PART OF HER INVOLVEMENT WITH THE LATINO PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION. SHE ALSO VOLUNTEERED WITH THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS AND WAS PRESIDENT OF THE POLICE OFFICER BALL TO BENEFIT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF NEBRASKA. OFFICER OROZCO WAS A GIRL SCOUT LEADER, PARTICIPATED IN THE SHOP WITH A COP, AND ASSISTED THE LATINO PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT. KERRIE WAS THE WIFE OF HECTOR LOPEZ OROZCO, STEPMOTHER TO SANTIAGO AND NATALIA, AND MOTHER TO A NEW BABY, OLIVIA. WHILE THIS RESOLUTION WILL IN NO WAY ERASE THE PAIN OF THE OROZCO FAMILY'S LOSS, IT'S OUR PRIVILEGE AS A LEGISLATURE TO HONOR OFFICER OROZCO'S LIFE AND HER SERVICE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR MELLO. THE FLOOR IS NOW OPEN FOR DEBATE OR FOR COMMENT. SENATOR KOLOWSKI, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR372]

SENATOR KOLOWSKI: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I STAND IN FULL SUPPORT OF THIS RESOLUTION AND WISH THE VERY BEST TO THE FAMILY AND IN OMAHA AND TO ALL OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE METRO AREA AND THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. I THINK IN...AT THIS TIME, IT TAKES ME

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BACK TO THE MEMORY OF MY OWN YOUNGER BROTHER WHO SERVED 20 YEARS IN THE STATE PATROL IN ILLINOIS, DIED OF A HEART ATTACK IN HIS 20th YEAR. AND ONE OF HIS FOUR SONS IS NOW A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS. AND THE GRANDFATHER IN THAT FAMILY WAS ALSO CHIEF OF POLICE IN PERU, ILLINOIS, GREAT MEMORIES OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND ALSO OF THIS OFFICER THAT LOST HER LIFE IN OMAHA. IT'S A VERY HAZARDOUS DUTY. WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THEIR WORK AND THEIR DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE IN SERVICE TO THEIR POPULATIONS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR KOLOWSKI. SENATOR SCHUMACHER, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR372]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: I, TOO, RISE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF LR372. I THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE THAT WE RECOGNIZE ALL OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL FOR ALL THE THINGS THAT THEY DO FOR US ON THE STORMY NIGHTS WHEN THEY HAVE TO INVESTIGATE A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, SOMETIMES A TRAFFIC FATALITY, ON THE HOT DAYS WHEN THEY WORK TRAFFIC, WHEN THEY TRACE DOWN PEOPLE WHO HAVE GOT WARRANTS ON THEM, WHEN THEY SIT IN COURTROOMS WAITING FOR THE JUDGE TO CALL THE CASE UPON WHICH THEY ARE TO TESTIFY, WHEN THEY SOMETIMES ARE ABUSED BY THE DEFENDANTS, SOMETIMES OTHER PEOPLE. AND I THINK IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT WE SALUTE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND WE RECOGNIZE THE TREMENDOUS SERVICE OF THIS YOUNG OFFICER IN OMAHA. AND AT THE END OF THIS, I'D LIKE TO ASK FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THIS MOTION TO SHOW OUR SOLIDARITY FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY IN REGULAR ORDER. THANK YOU. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR SCHUMACHER. WOULD YOU LIKE A CALL OF THE HOUSE, SENATOR SCHUMACHER, ALONG WITH THAT REQUEST? [LR372]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: YES, PLEASE. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: THERE'S BEEN A REQUEST TO PLACE THE HOUSE UNDER CALL. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL THE HOUSE GO UNDER CALL? THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR372]

CLERK: 38 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE MOTION TO PLACE THE HOUSE UNDER CALL. [LR372]

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SENATOR KRIST: THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. SENATORS, PLEASE RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. THOSE UNEXCUSED SENATORS OUTSIDE OF THE CHAMBER PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHAMBER AND RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. ALL UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL PLEASE LEAVE THE FLOOR. THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. SENATOR WILLIAMS AND SENATOR STINNER, PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHAMBER. THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. SENATOR WILLIAMS AND SENATOR STINNER, THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHAMBER. OH, THANK YOU. SORRY. HIT YOUR BUTTON TWICE. EVERYONE IS ACCOUNTED FOR. MR. CLERK, PLEASE READ THE ROLL. JUST A REMINDER, THIS IS THE ADOPTION OF LR372 HONORING OFFICER OROZCO. [LR372]

CLERK: (ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1947.) 48 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR372. [LR372]

SENATOR KRIST: LR372 IS ADOPTED. RAISE THE CALL. MR. CLERK. [LR372]

CLERK: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. LR373 IS A BILL BY SENATOR HARR RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICE OF MR. JAMES MOYLAN. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR BURKE HARR, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BODY. I'D LIKE TO TAKE A POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE, FIRST, TO CONGRATULATE--IT'S A DAY LATE--YOUR CREIGHTON PREP BLUEJAY JUNIOR JAYS FOR WINNING STATE IN GOLF. THE BOYS' TEAM HAS COME IN FIRST OR SECOND IN EVERY MAJOR SPORT THIS YEAR. SO CONGRATULATIONS, MR. PRESIDENT. NEXT, I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT MR. MOYLAN. THIS RESOLUTION IS TO HONOR HIM AND HIS LIFE. HE DID HAVE THREE SONS WHO ATTENDED CREIGHTON PREP AS WELL. MANY OF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH HIM AS A LOBBYIST. HE WORKED OUT IN THE ROTUNDA FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. PRIOR TO THAT AND DURING THAT TIME, HE WAS ALSO A REGENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY FROM 1971 TO 1989. HE SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS. IN ADDITION, HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING KEARNEY CHANGED FROM KEARNEY STATE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY. HE WAS A WONDERFUL MAN. HE RAISED SIX KIDS, THREE BOYS AND THEN THREE GIRLS. I HAD THE HONOR OF GRADUATING WITH TWO OF HIS DAUGHTERS. AND SO I WOULD THANK THE

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BODY, ALL 50 (SIC), FOR SIGNING THE RESOLUTION FOR MR. MOYLAN. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR HARR, FOR THE OPENING. THE FLOOR IS NOW OPEN FOR COMMENT. SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, I WAS NOT GOING SAY ANYTHING AT ALL TODAY. BUT I HAVE TO ASK SENATOR HARR A QUESTION. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR HARR, WILL YOU YIELD? [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: YES, I WILL. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: SENATOR HARR, WHERE DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL? [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: WELL, I DIDN'T GO TO HIGH SCHOOL. I WENT TO A PREP SCHOOL, CREIGHTON PREP. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ALL RIGHT. HOW MANY SENATORS ARE THERE HERE IN THIS BODY? [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: 49. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: AND WHO IS THE 50th ONE? [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: THE PEOPLE. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: OH, SO YOU INCLUDED THE PEOPLE WHEN YOU SAY ALL 50 SIGNED? [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: OH, DID I SAY 50? I APOLOGIZE. [LR373]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: SO YOU DON'T EVEN PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU SAY? (LAUGHTER) WHAT THIS DOES, SENATOR HARR, IS GIVES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO SHOW THAT I PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT MY COLLEAGUES SAY. I AM

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VERBAL. I AM LOQUACIOUS. BUT I ALSO HAVE EARS WITH WHICH TO HEAR. AND I WILL TELL YOU THIS. A WISE OLD OWL SAT IN AN OAK. THE MORE HE SAW, THE LESS HE SPOKE. THE LESS HE SPOKE, THE MORE HE HEARD. WHY CAN'T YOU ALL BE LIKE THIS BIRD? AND YOU KNOW WHY I SAY YOU ALL? THE MORE I HEAR, THE MORE I SPEAK WHEN IT'S APPROPRIATE, THERE BEING A TIME AND PLACE FOR EVERYTHING. I WANT TO INDICATE THAT MR. MOYLAN WAS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO, ALTHOUGH HE WAS A LOBBYIST, HE WAS A PERSON, FIRST OF ALL. HE HAD KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU MIGHT NOT BE AWARE OF IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE HIM IN A DISCUSSION OTHER THAN OF WHAT WAS GOING ON IN THE LEGISLATURE. SO SOMETIMES MY OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO HIM WAS LIKE GOING TO AN OASIS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT WHICH WAS NOT A MIRAGE AND THERE WOULD BE COOL, CLEAR WATER. SO ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENS AFTER HERE, I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A WHERE AFTER HERE, I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S AN "AFTER HERE" AFTER HERE, BUT I KNOW THAT WHILE MR. MOYLAN WAS HERE, HE WAS A MAN WHO LEFT A FOOTPRINT AND WOULD BE MEMORABLE IF YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET HIM IN A CAPACITY WHEN HE WAS FUNCTIONING OTHER THAN AS A LOBBYIST. I DON'T GO TO WAKES. I DON'T GO TO FUNERALS. AND I THINK THAT THE LIVING WORLD IS FOR THE LIVING. JESUS SAID LET THE DEAD BURY THE DEAD. SO THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CUSTOMS, WHO HAVE TRADITIONS. AND THEY ARE ENTITLED TO THOSE CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS. AND IF THEY DERIVE COMFORT FROM THAT, IT'S GOOD THAT THOSE THINGS BE HERE. BUT I WANT TO FOCUS EVERYTHING THAT I HAVE, THAT I MAY OFFER ON THOSE WHO ARE HERE RIGHT NOW BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONES WHO ARE IN NEED OF WHATEVER WE HAVE TO OFFER, WHO CAN APPRECIATE WHATEVER IT IS WE HAVE TO OFFER. AND I'M IN A POSITION TO SAY AS FAR AS MR. MOYLAN WAS CONCERNED, HE KNEW HOW I FELT ABOUT HIM. HE KNEW THE RESPECT THAT I HAD FOR HIM. I DON'T WAIT UNTIL SOMEBODY IS GOING INTO THE COLD, COLD GROUND AND THEN TALK ABOUT WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SAID. SO WE ARE GOING TO HAVE OUR BATTLES. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE OUR CONTENTIONS. AND YOU ALL NEED TO LEARN ONE THING FROM ME. WHEN ALL OF THIS IS OVER, YOU NEED TO LET IT GO. I KNOW THAT I'M NOT THE MOST LIKABLE PERSON IN THE WORLD. OCCASIONALLY I SAY SOMETHING THAT'S NOT TRUE, AND THAT'S ONE OF THOSE OCCASIONS. BUT I HAD TO CORRECT IT SO I'D BE TELLING THE TRUTH. BUT IF YOU CARRY WITH YOU ALL OF THE STUFF THAT HAPPENED HERE, IT WILL BE A PROBLEM FOR YOUR FAMILY, FOR YOUR FRIENDS, AND FOR YOU. WHEN YOU ALL SAY SINE DIE, LET THAT MEAN THAT IT IS OVER. THAT'S MY ADVICE TO YOU AS THE OLDEST PERSON HERE. THE OTHER FESTIVITIES THAT YOU HAVE, I WILL NOT BE A PART OF. BUT I WANTED TO BE HERE AT LEAST FOR

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THIS RESOLUTION. AND WITH THAT, SENATOR HARR AND MY COLLEAGUES, I BID YOU ADIEU. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR373]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I BELIEVE WHEN JESUS SAID, LET THE DEAD BURY THE DEAD, HE WAS SPEAKING SPIRITUALLY. WERE WE TO IN FACT LET THAT HAPPEN, IT WOULD NEITHER BE A HEALTHY NOR PLEASANT-SMELLING PLACE THAT WE RESIDE IN. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR BLOOMFIELD. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) SEEING NO ONE ELSE WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR HARR, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE. [LR373]

SENATOR HARR: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. AND LIKE I SAID, I WANT TO THANK THE OTHER 48 SENATORS, 49 WITH MYSELF, FOR SIGNING THIS RESOLUTION. I DID ATTEND THE WAKE FOR MR. MOYLAN AND IT WAS A FINE TRIBUTE TO A GREAT MAN WHO ENJOYED A GOOD LIFE AND A GOOD LAUGH. SO I WOULD ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON LR373. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR HARR. YOU'VE HEARD THE CLOSING TO LR373. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. HAVE ALL THOSE VOTED THAT WISH TO? PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR373]

CLERK: 45 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION. [LR373]

SENATOR KRIST: LR373 IS ADOPTED. NEXT ITEM. [LR373]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LR374 IS A RESOLUTION BY DAVIS AND THE MEMBERSHIP THAT ASKS THE LEGISLATURE TO COMMEND THE STAFF OF THE AINSWORTH CARE CENTER AND LOGAN VALLEY MANOR FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF THOSE CARE FACILITIES. [LR374]

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SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR DAVIS, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR374]

SENATOR DAVIS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND COLLEAGUES. LR374 COMMENDS EMPLOYEES AT THE AINSWORTH AND LYONS NURSING HOMES FOR THE COMPASSION, DEDICATION, AND PROFESSIONALISM THEY DEMONSTRATED IN THE FACE OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE ENTITY WHICH WAS OPERATING THOSE NURSING HOMES. TO REFRESH YOUR MEMORY, THESE NURSING HOMES WERE TWO OF FOUR FACILITIES OPERATING IN NEBRASKA WHICH WERE CAUGHT UP IN THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE MULTIPLE UTAH ENTITIES WHICH OWNED THESE NURSING HOMES AND OTHERS IN NEBRASKA AND NATIONALLY. THE STAFF OF THE FACILITIES AT AINSWORTH AND LYONS CONTINUED TO PROVIDE CARE AND SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THESE NURSING HOMES, ALTHOUGH THEY RECEIVED NO PAY BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND MAY 6 AND ARE UNLIKELY TO BE COMPENSATED FOR THAT FIVE-WEEK PERIOD. THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, THE FAMILIES OF THE RESIDENTS, AND THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY ARE LOCATED OWE THESE STAFF MEMBERS A GREAT DEAL OF GRATITUDE FOR THE SACRIFICES THEY MADE IN REPORTING TO WORK PROMPTLY AND CHEERFULLY DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEY WERE NO LONGER BEING COMPENSATED. I WANT TO THANK THE OTHER 48 SENATORS IN THE BODY WHO SIGNED THE RESOLUTION. THESE SELFLESS INDIVIDUALS ARE A SHINING EXAMPLE OF WHAT MAKES NEBRASKA A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE--A COMMITMENT TO COMPASSION, ATTENTION TO DETAIL, AND AN UNSELFISH NATURE IN PLACING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS ABOVE THE NEEDS OF THEMSELVES. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR DAVIS. THE FLOOR IS NOW OPEN FOR COMMENT. THOSE WISHING TO SPEAK: SENATOR BRASCH, COASH, AND CAMPBELL. SENATOR BRASCH, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED. [LR374]

SENATOR BRASCH: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES. I STAND IN SUPPORT OF THIS LR374. AND SENATOR DAVIS' STAFF AND MY STAFF HAD ALSO WORKED TO GET THE NAMES OF EACH ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS. WHEN I STOPPED IN THE FACILITY IN LYONS, IMMEDIATELY THE STAFF THAT WERE THERE, THE FIRST WORDS THAT CAME OUT OF THEIR MOUTHS WERE: EVERYONE IS OKAY. THERE HAD BEEN NO FALLS, NO OPEN WOUNDS. THEIR WELL-BEING WAS CARED FOR. AND THEY WERE PROUD OF THAT EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD NOT BEEN PAID, HAD NOT BEEN COMPENSATED. THEIR FIRST CONCERN WAS FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE RESIDENTS THERE. THEN THEY HAD MENTIONED THAT THEY WERE WORRIED ABOUT THEIR ABILITY TO PAY THEIR DEBTS FOR THEIR HOUSEHOLD. SO I COMMEND THOSE

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INDIVIDUALS IN BOTH COMMUNITIES FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERING BASICALLY TO TAKE CARE OF THOSE WHO CANNOT CARE FOR THEMSELVES. THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES, THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR BRASCH. SENATOR COASH, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR374]

SENATOR COASH: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. COLLEAGUES, I APPRECIATE SENATOR DAVIS AND SENATOR BRASCH PUTTING THIS RESOLUTION TOGETHER. THE COMMUNITY OF AINSWORTH IS NEAR THE COMMUNITY WHERE I GREW UP. AND I KNOW MANY OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE LISTED ON THIS RESOLUTION. I'M VERY PROUD OF WHAT THEY'VE DONE. THEY HAVE PUT IN TIME THAT HAS BEEN UNCOMPENSATED, NOT FOR A DAY OR A FEW DAYS, BUT FOR WEEKS. AND THEY DID THIS BECAUSE THEY'RE NEBRASKANS AND THEY CARE ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY AND THEY CARE ABOUT THE ELDERLY IN THEIR COMMUNITY. AND WE SHOULD BE PROUD OF THAT. AND WE SHOULD DO MORE THAN JUST PASS THIS RESOLUTION. WE NEED TO WORK IN THIS BODY TO ASSURE THAT THIS KIND OF THING DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN. BECAUSE WITHOUT US, IT COULD HAPPEN AGAIN. AND WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN THIS RESOLUTION. AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HELPING IN THAT EFFORT NEXT YEAR. AND AGAIN, I COMMEND ALL OF THOSE EMPLOYEES WHO WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND. AND AS SENATOR BRASCH INDICATED, THEY VOLUNTEERED. AND THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO BE PAID. BUT THEY DO IT BECAUSE THEY CARE. THEY DO IT BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT YOU DO IN A COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO TAKE CARE OF THE MOST VULNERABLE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR COASH. SENATOR CAMPBELL, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR374]

SENATOR CAMPBELL: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I WISH TO THANK SENATOR BRASCH AND SENATOR DAVIS FOR THE RESOLUTION BEFORE US AND THE HOURS THAT BOTH OF THOSE SENATORS HAVE SPENT WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITIES, WITH THE DEPARTMENT, WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE TO REACH SOME RESOLUTION FOR THOSE RESIDENTS. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY, PLEASE DO NOT JUST PASS THIS RESOLUTION AND MOVE ON. WHAT I WOULD ASK THAT YOU DO, THAT IF YOU HAVE NURSING CARE FACILITIES IN YOUR DISTRICTS, THAT BETWEEN NOW AND THE NEXT SESSION YOU TAKE TIME AND STOP IN AND THANK THE STAFF. WE HAVE WONDERFUL PEOPLE ACROSS THE STATE WHO CARE FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS, THE ELDERLY, WHO PAID TAXES

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YEAR AFTER YEAR, BUILT THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, CARE DEEPLY ABOUT IT. IT'S OUR TIME TO CARE ABOUT THEM. AND IF YOU WOULD JUST TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO WALK AROUND AND CHAT WITH THEM AND THANK THE STAFF, IT WOULD HAVE GREAT MEANING. AND THEN YOU'D HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING WHEN WE COME BACK NEXT YEAR, AND WE MAY NEED LEGISLATION TO DEAL WITH SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WE'VE ENCOUNTERED. YOU WILL HAVE HAD A FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE OF VISITING THOSE CARE FACILITIES. SO HOPEFULLY YOU WILL LOOK AT THIS RESOLUTION AS A CHARGE TO ALL OF US TO TAKE ON THAT TASK IN THIS INTERIM. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR CAMPBELL. SENATOR SULLIVAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR374]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. AND I WOULD CERTAINLY ECHO ALL THAT HAS BEEN SAID WITH RESPECT TO THIS RESOLUTION AND THANK SENATOR DAVIS FOR INTRODUCING IT. ON MY SCHEDULE, IN MY CALENDAR NEXT WEEK, I'M GOING TO THE WILLOWS IN NELIGH, NEBRASKA, IN MY DISTRICT, WHICH IS AN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY. AND I WILL MAKE A POINT, FOLLOWING UP SENATOR CAMPBELL'S COMMENTS, TO REACH OUT TO THE SEVERAL OF THE FACILITIES THAT I HAVE IN DISTRICT 41. AND I KNOW THE CHALLENGES THAT SOME OF THEM HAVE FACED. I THINK WHEN WE SPOKE OF THIS SITUATION EARLIER, I REMARKED ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN SPALDING, WHICH IS A COMMUNITY IN MY DISTRICT, AND THE IMPACT WHEN THAT NURSING HOME CLOSED THERE AND THE IMPACT THAT IT HAD ON THE RESIDENTS WHO THEN HAD TO GO TO OTHER FACILITIES, AND THEN, OF COURSE, WHAT THE COMMUNITY OF SPALDING HAS CONTINUED TO DO, WHICH IS TRY TO RAISE THE FUNDS NEEDED TO BUILD A NEW FACILITY. AND INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, I WAS JUST LOOKING AT MY E-MAILS EARLIER THIS MORNING. AND THERE'S A CONFERENCE COMING UP IN OCTOBER CALLED THE RURAL FUTURES INSTITUTE. AND IN TALKING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT THINGS THAT WERE ON THE PROGRAM, THERE WAS THE COMMENT MADE ABOUT MORE AND MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN RETURNING TO RURAL COMMUNITIES, SMALL COMMUNITIES, TO RAISE THEIR FAMILIES. AND AS YOU WELL KNOW, I JUST GET VERY ENTHUSED AND EXCITED ABOUT THAT BECAUSE ONE OF MY COMMITMENTS IS TO THE FUTURE OF RURAL NEBRASKA AND TO THE COMMUNITIES. BUT IN THE WHOLE COURSE OF THAT, WE CANNOT FORGET THE OLDER PEOPLE WHO HELPED BUILD THOSE RURAL COMMUNITIES, WHO NOW ARE AT THE POINT IN THEIR LIVES WHERE THEY NEED SOME ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. AND THEY WANT VERY MUCH TO LIVE AND CONTINUE AND TO

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END THEIR DAYS IN THOSE COMMUNITIES. AND SO THOSE LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES ARE SO IMPORTANT. BUT WITH THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF NEBRASKA AND HOW THE DEPOPULATION IN THE RURAL AREAS CONTINUES, THAT IS A GROWING CHALLENGE. SO I ECHO SENATOR CAMPBELL'S CONCERN AND THE NEED FOR US TO LOOK CAREFULLY AT THIS SITUATION AND DO WHAT WE CAN POLICYWISE TO NOT ONLY ENSURE THE QUALITY, BUT ALSO THE LOCATION OF SOME OF THESE FACILITIES BECAUSE IT'S PART OF THE FABRIC AND THE WEB OF NEBRASKA. AND WE CANNOT FORGET THESE INDIVIDUALS WHO HELPED BUILD THIS STATE TO WHERE IT IS, AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CONTINUE TO TAKE CARE OF THEM TO THE END OF THEIR DAYS. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR SULLIVAN. SEEING NO ONE ELSE WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR DAVIS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE. [LR374]

SENATOR DAVIS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I WANT TO THANK SENATOR SULLIVAN, SENATOR CAMPBELL, SENATOR COASH, AND SENATOR BRASCH FOR THE COMMENTS THEY MADE THIS MORNING WHICH I THINK ARE SO APPROPRIATE. AND I HOPE THE BODY RECOGNIZES WHAT SENATOR COASH SAID ABOUT THIS ISSUE. IT IS A VERY SERIOUS ISSUE THAT THE STATE WILL NEED TO FACE NEXT YEAR. AND WE WILL NEED TO FIND SOME LEGISLATION AND PUT SOMETHING FORWARD BECAUSE WE CAN'T RELY ON VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE CARE OF THE PEOPLE IN OUR STATE WHO ARE MOST NEEDY AND HAVE THE MOST HEALTHCARE NEEDS AT A TIME WHEN THE COMPANY THAT IS OPERATING THEM CEASES TO EXIST. I THINK THAT WE ALL HAVE TO RECOGNIZE HOW INCREDIBLY LUCKY WE WERE THAT THESE FOLKS STEPPED UP AND TOOK THE RESPONSIBILITY AND TOOK THE LIABILITY TO CARE FOR THE FOLKS WHO NEEDED THE HELP, WHO WERE RELYING ON THEM FOR MEALS, FOR NURSING CARE, FOR EVERYTHING. YOU JUST CAN'T THANK THEM ENOUGH. REMEMBER, A LOT OF THESE PEOPLE, COLLEAGUES, ARE PEOPLE WHO REALLY AREN'T MAKING A LOT OF MONEY. THEY JUST THOUGHT IT WAS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAT THEY BE THERE FOR THOSE RESIDENTS. AND THEY MADE PERSONAL SACRIFICES TO DO IT. AND I'M SURE THEY HAD BOUNCED CHECKS. AND I'M SURE THEY HAVE BILLS THAT THEY CAN'T PAY BECAUSE THEY CHOSE TO STICK WITH THAT NURSING HOME AND STAY WITH THOSE RESIDENTS RATHER THAN QUIT AND GO FIND ANOTHER JOB BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT IT WAS A HIGHER DUTY. I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, COLLEAGUES, FOR PASSING THE RESOLUTION AND URGE YOU TO VOTE GREEN ON THE RESOLUTION. THANK YOU. [LR374]

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SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR DAVIS. YOU HAVE HEARD THE CLOSING FOR LR374. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR374]

CLERK: 37 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR374. [LR374]

SENATOR KRIST: LR374 IS ADOPTED. NEXT ITEM. [LR374]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LR375, A RESOLUTION BY SENATOR FRIESEN CONGRATULATING THE GILTNER HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS FOR WINNING THE 2015 CLASS D BOYS' STATE TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP. [LR375]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR FRIESEN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR375]

SENATOR FRIESEN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. THIS IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTREMELY TALENTED GILTNER HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS CLASS D CHAMPIONS, THE BOYS' STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR375]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR FRIESEN. SEEING NO ONE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR FRIESEN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE. SENATOR FRIESEN WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF LR375. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR375]

CLERK: 38 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR375. [LR375]

SENATOR KRIST: LR375 IS ADOPTED. NEXT ITEM. [LR375]

CLERK: LR376 BY SENATOR FRIESEN CONGRATULATES THE GILTNER HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS FOR WINNING THE CLASS D GIRLS' STATE TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP. [LR376]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR FRIESEN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR376]

SENATOR FRIESEN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THIS ALSO IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTREMELY TALENTED GIRLS OF THE GILTNER HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS

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WHO WON THE CLASS D STATE TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR376]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR FRIESEN. SEEING NO ONE ELSE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR FRIESEN WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF LR376. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR376]

CLERK: 38 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR376. [LR376]

SENATOR KRIST: LR376 IS ADOPTED. NEXT ITEM. [LR376]

CLERK: LR377, A RESOLUTION BY SENATOR WATERMEIER, TO ASK THE LEGISLATURE TO RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICE OF RODNEY VANDEBERG AND EXTENDS ITS SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY. [LR377]

SENATOR KRIST: SENATOR WATERMEIER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LR377]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKANS. ON SATURDAY, MAY 23, RODNEY VANDEBERG PASSED AWAY AND WE LOST A GREAT NEBRASKAN. MR. VANDEBERG WAS A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT AND CIVIC LEADER THROUGHOUT HIS LIFETIME. HE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE, AS THE MAYOR OF FALLS CITY, AND WAS CURRENTLY SERVING AS DISTRICT 1 HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER. HE WAS CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT, AND CEO OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST OF FALLS CITY FOR OVER 35 YEARS. HE LED COMMUNITY FUND-RAISING PROJECTS...AS THE NEW RULO BRIDGE OVER THE MISSOURI RIVER, A NEW FALLS CITY LIBRARY AND ARTS CENTER, THE COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER, AND THE FIEDLER FAMILY BALL COMPLEX. I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF MR. VANDEBERG. HIS EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP WILL BE GREATLY MISSED IN OUR STATE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LR377]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, SENATOR WATERMEIER. SEEING NO ONE ELSE IN THE QUEUE, SENATOR WATERMEIER WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF LR377. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; OPPOSED, NAY. PLEASE RECORD, MR. CLERK. [LR377]

CLERK: 39 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF LR377. [LR377]

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SENATOR KRIST: LR377 IS ADOPTED. ITEMS, MR. CLERK. [LR377]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I DO. THANK YOU. BILLS READ ON FINAL READING THIS MORNING WERE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR AT 10:35. (RE LB315, LB315A, LB452, LB457, LB540, LB577, LB581, AND LB581A.) MR. PRESIDENT, A COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNOR TO THE CLERK. (READ RE LB468, LB468A, LB315, LB315A, LB452, LB457, LB540, LB577, LB581, AND LB581A). (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 1948.) [LB468 LB468A LB315 LB315A LB452 LB457 LB540 LB577 LB581 LB581A]

SPEAKER HADLEY PRESIDING

SPEAKER HADLEY: WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION AND CAPABLE OF TRANSACTING BUSINESS, I PROPOSE TO SIGN AND DO HEREBY SIGN LR23, LR356, LR357, LR358, LR359, LR360, LR361, LR362, LR363, LR364, LR365, LR366, LR367, LR368, LR369, LR370, LR371, LR372, LR373, LR374, LR375, LR376, AND LR377. SENATOR McCOLLISTER FOR A MOTION. [LR23 LR356 LR357 LR358 LR359 LR360 LR361 LR362 LR363 LR364 LR365 LR366 LR367 LR368 LR369 LR370 LR371 LR372 LR373 LR374 LR375 LR376 LR377]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I MOVE THAT A COMMITTEE OF FIVE BE APPOINTED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNOR THAT THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION OF THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE IS ABOUT TO COMPLETE ITS WORK AND RETURN WITH ANY MESSAGE THE GOVERNOR MAY HAVE FOR THE LEGISLATURE. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.

SPEAKER HADLEY: YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE. OPPOSED, NAY. THE MOTION IS ADOPTED. THE CHAIR APPOINTS THE FOLLOWING ESCORT COMMITTEE: SENATOR GARRETT, SENATOR MURANTE, SENATOR BRASCH, SENATOR KEN HAAR, AND SENATOR CRAWFORD. THEY WILL GO AND ESCORT THE GOVERNOR TO THE CHAMBER. THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES THE SERGEANT AT ARMS.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: MR. SPEAKER, YOUR COMMITTEE NOW ESCORTING THE GOVERNOR OF THE GREAT STATE OF NEBRASKA, PETE RICKETTS.

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SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. GOVERNOR, WE APPRECIATE YOUR COMING TO THE CHAMBER. THANK YOU.

GOVERNOR RICKETTS: THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FRIENDS, FELLOW NEBRASKANS, CONGRATULATIONS ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE. MR. SPEAKER, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP THROUGH THIS FIRST SESSION, AND CONGRATULATIONS AS WELL TO SENATOR NORDQUIST. GOOD LUCK ON YOUR NEW ENDEAVOR AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. EVERY SESSION, YOU, OUR CITIZEN LEGISLATORS, SACRIFICE YOUR TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR COMMUNITIES, AND YOUR BUSINESSES TO COME HERE TO LINCOLN TO DO THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SACRIFICING TO BE HERE FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA. AS I SAID IN THE STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS, THE WORK WE DO IMPACTS HARDWORKING NEBRASKANS ALL ACROSS THE STATE. OUR WORK HERE IN LINCOLN HAS REAL LIFE IMPLICATIONS WHICH IS WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT WE KEEP THE LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS OPEN AND WORK TOGETHER TO GROW NEBRASKA. THIS SESSION, YOU TOOK ON MANY DIFFICULT ISSUES AND MADE MANY DIFFICULT DECISIONS. MY PRIORITIES FOR THE SESSION WERE CUTTING THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. AND CUTTING THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN SUSTAINABLY PROVIDE TAX RELIEF AND GROW NEBRASKA. WORKING TOGETHER, WE CUT THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT BY NEARLY HALF TO 3.5 PERCENT. WORKING TOGETHER, WE PROVIDED \$128 MILLION OF ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF THROUGH THE PROPERTY TAX CREDIT RELIEF FUND. THIS IS DIRECT RELIEF FROM THE STATE TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS ACROSS THE STATE, AND FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM WILL MEAN \$408 MILLION OF PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. WE ALSO PROVIDED PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. I WANT TO RECOGNIZE THE MEMBERS OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. I KNOW FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE HOW MUCH TIME, EFFORT, AND ENERGY GOES IN TO CRAFTING THIS BUDGET. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK. WE HAVE MADE GREAT STRIDES IN CUTTING THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDING TAX RELIEF, BUT WE CAN AND MUST DO MORE. YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS SAID THAT WE DIDN'T GET TO BE A HIGH-TAX STATE OVERNIGHT, AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO SOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS OVERNIGHT EITHER. BUNTS AND SINGLES ARE A GOOD START, BUT WE MUST MAKE MEANINGFUL TAX RELIEF A PRIORITY FOR THE NEXT SESSION. ADDITIONAL NOTABLE SUCCESSES THAT WE HAD DURING THE SESSION INCLUDE PROVIDING

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MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR OUR NURSE PRACTITIONERS SO THEY CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THAT HIGH-QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE ALL ACROSS THE STATE. IN THE BUDGET I SIGNED, WE HAD ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR A PILOT PROGRAM FOR CAREER AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR YOUNG NEBRASKANS. AND WE ALSO TOOK AN IMPORTANT STEP IN ADDRESSING THE CLIFF EFFECT IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO TAKE THAT NEXT JOB, TAKE THAT PROMOTION, TAKE THAT PAY RAISE, AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE A BARRIER FOR THAT. I ALSO SAID WE WOULD COMPROMISE, AND WE DID. SENATOR CAMPBELL AND I WORKED TOGETHER TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR OUR FAMILIES HERE IN THE STATE THROUGH THE AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN PROGRAM AND DOING IT IN A FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE WAY, INCREASING IT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 30 YEARS. WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS, WE CRAFTED IMPORTANT REFORMS FOR OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. AND THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW COMPROMISE WORKS. WE HAD INPUT FROM MANY STAKEHOLDERS. THIS WAS AN EFFORT WORKING WITH STATE SENATORS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, THE JUDICIARY, PROSECUTORS, AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE TO CRAFT THAT LEGISLATION. AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS AND THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS TO BE ABLE TO IMPLEMENT THESE REFORMS. NOW, WE DIDN'T ALWAYS AGREE IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS ON THE DIRECTION TO TAKE THE STATE; AND IN THE FUTURE, WE MAY NOT AGREE AS WELL. BUT WE CAN NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE PEOPLE WHO SENT US HERE. AND NOW IT'S TIME TO RETURN HOME. TO GO BACK HOME TO THE SECOND HOUSE, THE PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA, AND REFOCUS FOR THE NEXT SESSION, WHETHER IT'S THE SINGLE MOM WHO'S WORKING TWO JOBS TO PAY THE BILLS AND THE MORTGAGE, OR THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL, WHO'S EARNING THAT SECOND DEGREE, WORKING TO PAY FOR THE SCHOOL, OR THE FAMILY OF FOUR WHERE DAD IS DRIVING 30 MILES IN TO THE PLANT. IT IS OUR DUTY TO LISTEN TO THEIR CONCERNS AND PRIORITIZE OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE AN EVEN BETTER FUTURE FOR THEM. SO NEXT YEAR, WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE PRIORITIES THAT THE PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA SENT US HERE TO WORK ON. WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO CUT GOVERNMENT GROWTH AND PROVIDE TAX RELIEF. AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO HELP CREATE MORE AND BETTER PAYING JOBS TO KEEP OUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS HERE, TO ATTRACT PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY TO COME HERE AND MAKE NEBRASKA THEIR HOME. WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO GROW NEBRASKA. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK. GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD BLESS THE PEOPLE OF THE GREAT STATE OF NEBRASKA.

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SPEAKER HADLEY: THANK YOU, GOVERNOR. WOULD THE COMMITTEE ESCORT THE GOVERNOR FROM THE CHAMBER. WILL THE BODY COME TO ORDER. I RECOGNIZE SENATOR MELLO.

SENATOR MELLO: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE. I HAVE THE DISTINGUISHED PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE OUR COLLEAGUE, SENATOR JEREMY NORDQUIST. AS MANY OF YOU WELL KNOW, SENATOR NORDQUIST WILL BE RESIGNING FROM OFFICE ON JUNE 30. AND I CAN SAY FROM SERVING WITH HIM NOW FOR SEVEN YEARS, FOR SHARING A DISTRICT WITH SENATOR NORDQUIST FOR THOSE SEVEN YEARS, IT'S BEEN MORE THAN A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY PUBLIC SERVICE WITH SUCH A CLOSE FRIEND. JEREMY, OBVIOUSLY, HAS BEEN A COUNSELOR, A CONFIDANTE. HE'S THE GODFATHER OF ME AND CATHERINE'S DAUGHTER. WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO SHARE A LOT OF PERSONAL ENJOYMENT THROUGHOUT OUR TIME IN THE LEGISLATURE, NOT JUST IN THE BODY, BUT OUT IN THE COMMUNITY, ON VACATIONS. AND I KNOW, FROM MY HEART AND SOUL, HE'S GOING TO BE DEEPLY MISSED, NOT JUST BY ME, BUT FROM A NUMBER OF US. AND SO, WITH THAT, IT'S MY DISTINGUISHED PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE SENATOR JEREMY NORDQUIST.

SENATOR NORDQUIST: THANK YOU. SIT DOWN, PLEASE. THANK YOU. THANK YOU, SENATOR MELLO. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES. I MAY ASK A FEW OF YOU TO YIELD ME SOME TIME ON THIS ONE. (LAUGHTER) BUT SINCE MAKING THE DECISION TO RESIGN MY SEAT, I'VE BEEN THINKING LONG AND HARD ABOUT WHAT TO SAY, WHAT ARE THE PERFECT WORDS TO BE LEFT IN THE FINAL TRANSCRIPT, WHAT'S THE LAST SPEECH YOU WANT TO GIVE IN THE CHAMBER. OBVIOUSLY, THAT SPEECH HAS TO START WITH A LOT OF THANK-YOUS. THERE ARE MANY, MANY THAT DESERVE THANK-YOUS, BUT I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LIMIT IT BECAUSE I'M AFRAID OF THE PAGES CUTTING OFF MY MIKE AGAIN MID SPEECH. BUT TO START, THANK YOU TO THE RESIDENTS OF DOWNTOWN AND SOUTH OMAHA. IT'S BEEN AN HONOR REPRESENTING YOUR FAMILIES, YOUR BUSINESSES, YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS. AND THANK YOU FOR TAKING A CHANCE ON ME. I WANT TO SHARE A QUICK STORY FROM THIS SESSION, AND I HOPE SHE DOESN'T MIND ME SHARING IT. SENATOR CRAWFORD AND I WERE AT A DINNER TALKING WITH...I BELIEVE IT WAS AT THE UNIVERSITY WITH SOME FACULTY, AND WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW WE GOT INTO POLITICS. AND THOSE OF YOU THAT MAY KNOW, SENATOR CRAWFORD WAS MY PUBLIC POLICY PROFESSOR AT CREIGHTON. AND SHE WAS TELLING THE STORY OF HOW FORMER-SENATOR HARTNETT APPROACHED HER FIRST AND THEN SHE CAME TO ME AND ASKED MY ADVICE. AND SHE WAS

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SAYING HOW SHE HAD ALL THESE DOUBTS AND THEN, ONLY AS A POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR COULD, WENT INTO THE RESEARCH OF HOW WOMEN HAVE MORE DOUBTS ABOUT RUNNING FOR OFFICE. AND I JUST LOOK AT HER AND GO, WELL, I WAS A BRASH 25-YEAR-OLD MALE WHO THOUGHT I KNEW EVERYTHING, AND I DECIDED TO RUN FOR OFFICE AND THE VOTERS OF DISTRICT 7 DECIDED TO GO ALONG WITH IT. THANK YOU TO THE INSTITUTION. I FEEL BLESSED TO HAVE BEEN PART OF IT. SPECIFICALLY, THANK YOU TO THE OUTSTANDING STAFFS OF ALL THE DIVISIONS AND ALSO, IN PARTICULAR, I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THE FISCAL OFFICE STAFF FOR PUTTING UP WITH ME FOR SEVEN YEARS. YOU ARE ALL DEDICATED TO THIS INSTITUTION. YOU ARE THE STRENGTH OF THIS INSTITUTION. AND I'M PROUD TO CALL MYSELF A FORMER STAFF MEMBER OF THE UNICAMERAL. I'D LIKE TO THANK MY STAFF, CURRENT AND FORMER, ERIC VAN HORN, TRISHA CLARK, TIFFANY JOEKEL, KATE ALLEN, NICKI BEHMER, AND LAURIE VOLLERTSEN. YOU ARE ALL THE BIGGEST REASON FOR MY SUCCESS. YOU'VE CHALLENGED ME, INSPIRED ME, MADE SURE I WAS PREPARED EVEN WHEN MY ATTENTION SPAN HAD REACHED ITS LIMIT. I CALL YOU ALL VERY GOOD FRIENDS TODAY. THANK YOU TO MY COLLEAGUES. I THINK VERY FEW PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE SACRIFICES THAT YOU MAKE TO BE HERE AND THE DEDICATION THAT YOU GIVE TO THE WORK THAT WE DO. A COUPLE OF COLLEAGUES IN PARTICULAR: SENATOR CAMPBELL, THANK YOU FOR BEING A GREAT PARTNER ON SO MANY ISSUES, AND THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS BEING WILLING TO SIGN MY BILLS SO I CAN CALL THEM BIPARTISAN. (LAUGHTER) THANK YOU, OF COURSE, TO SENATOR MELLO FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP, YOUR COUNSEL, BOTH PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY, AND THANK YOU FOR TAKING A CHANCE IN RUNNING FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE WHEN THE OUTCOME WASN'T CLEAR. THE STATE OF NEBRASKA IS BETTER BECAUSE OF IT. AND I DON'T WANT TO YOU THINK THAT I'M A BIG DEAL, BUT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN MY DRIVER FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, SO. THERE'S A FEW FORMER LEGISLATORS I HAVE TO THANK THAT ALL GAVE ME OPPORTUNITIES ALONG THE WAY: FORMER STATE SENATOR NANCY THOMPSON, WHO GAVE ME MY FIRST JOB IN NEBRASKA POLITICS ON HER CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN; FORMER STATE SENATOR JOHN SYNOWIECKI FOR TRUSTING ME TO BE HIS LEGISLATIVE AIDE IN 2004; FORMER SENATOR STEVE LATHROP FOR BEING A PARTNER IN HIS POLITICAL CAREER AND RUNNING HIS FIRST RACE FOR LEGISLATURE, AND WATCHING HIM IN THE BODY WAS A BIG INFLUENCE ON ME; FORMER SENATOR AND CONGRESSMAN ASHFORD FOR HIS FRIENDSHIP AND GIVING ME THE CURRENT OPPORTUNITY; AND FORMER SENATOR AND FORMER CONGRESSMAN JOHN CAVANAUGH, WHO HAS BEEN A DEAR FRIEND AND A POLITICAL MENTOR OF MINE THROUGHOUT MY ENTIRE CAREER. I WANT TO

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THANK MY FAMILY, MY MOTHER, JEAN, WHO IS HERE WITH US TODAY, WHO RAN THE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM IN OUR SMALL TOWN, AND MY LATE FATHER, TOM, WHO WAS A TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT FOREMAN, CITY COUNCILMAN, VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER. THEY REALLY ARE MY INSPIRATIONS. THEY TAUGHT ME AT A YOUNG AGE THAT WE'RE ALL CALLED TO DO OUR PART TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY STRONGER AND THAT WE'RE ALL BETTER OFF WHEN WE'RE ALL BETTER OFF. AND ALSO, THANKS TO MY FIVE OLDER BROTHERS. NOTHING PREPARES YOU TO BE A FRESHMAN STATE LEGISLATOR LIKE HAVING FIVE OLDER BROTHERS. (LAUGHTER) AND THANK YOU TO MY DAUGHTER, ELIN, FOR INSPIRING ME TO NOT STOP THINKING ABOUT THE WORLD WE WANT TO LEAVE FOR HER GENERATION, AND FOR ALL HER SMILES. AND FINALLY, TO MY WIFE, SHANNON, I LOVE YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. IT'S EASY FOR ME TO FORGET IN 2007 THAT SIX MONTHS AFTER BEING MARRIED I ASKED YOU TO MOVE, TO BUY A HOUSE IN DISTRICT 7--YES, I'M A CARPETBAGGER--SO THAT I COULD SPEND THE NEXT 18 MONTHS, EVERY FREE MOMENT OF THE NEXT 18 MONTHS, CAMPAIGNING SO I COULD GET ELECTED AND MAKE \$12,000 A YEAR AND NOT KNOW HOW WE WERE GOING TO PAY FOR THAT HOUSE. AND SHE SAID YES, AND I GOT TO DO THIS BECAUSE SHE SAID YES. SO, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. OBVIOUSLY, I'M HERE AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO WHAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO BECAUSE OF ALL OF THOSE PEOPLE AND SO MANY MORE. SO FOR MY FINAL WORDS OF WISDOM FOR YOU, I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT ABOUT WHAT TO SAY. AND IT'S EASY TODAY TO BE CYNICAL ABOUT WHAT WE DO, CYNICAL ABOUT EACH OTHER. IT'S EASY TO QUESTION EACH OTHER'S MOTIVES AND DISPARAGE EACH OTHER TO THE PUBLIC. IT'S MORE DIFFICULT TO DISAGREE WITH SOMEONE ON MERIT, WITHOUT QUESTIONING THEIR MOTIVES AND THEIR INTEGRITY. AND THE TRUTH IS, I CAN SAY WITHOUT RESERVATION THAT YOU ARE ALL HERE FOR THE RIGHT REASON. YOU ALL WANT TO MAKE THE STATE A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE. AND WHILE WE MAY DISAGREE--AND THOSE DISAGREEMENTS, QUITE FRANKLY, ARE NO MORE INTENSE THAN THE DISAGREEMENTS I HAVE WITHIN MY OWN FAMILY AT TIMES, WE ALL DISAGREE--I SIMPLY ASK YOU TO KEEP IN MIND THAT, AS YOU INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER AND YOU INTERACT AND REPRESENT THIS BODY TO THE PUBLIC, THAT WE ARE ALL HERE FOR THE RIGHT REASONS, TRYING TO MAKE NEBRASKA A BETTER PLACE. THANK YOU ALL.

SENATOR COASH PRESIDING

SENATOR COASH: SPEAKER HADLEY, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED.

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SPEAKER HADLEY: MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE BODY, ONE OF THE LAST THINGS THAT I GET TO DO THIS YEAR IS TALK TO YOU A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE SESSION. FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR ALL THE HARD WORK THAT YOU PUT IN, THE NIGHTS, WEEKENDS THAT YOU SPEND WORKING FOR LITTLE PAY, SOMETIMES SOME SLINGS AND ARROWS THAT COME AT US. BUT I WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION, WAS A HISTORIC SESSION REGARDLESS OF WHICH SIDE OF THE ISSUES YOU FELL ON. IT WAS A YEAR OF TOUGH DECISIONS. THIS IS MY SEVENTH YEAR HERE, AND I THINK IT WAS, BY FAR AND AWAY, FILLED WITH DIFFICULT DECISIONS. AND I APPLAUD YOUR TACKLING THOSE DECISIONS. THOSE AREN'T EASY. AS SOMEONE ONCE SAID, WE HAVE A RED BUTTON, WE HAVE A GREEN BUTTON, WE DON'T HAVE A "MAYBE" BUTTON, AND WE CAN'T WALK AWAY FROM MAKING DECISIONS. WE HAVE A NEW CLASS WITH 18 NEW MEMBERS, AND I AM VERY PROUD OF THEM. IN 1915, THE CLASS AT WEST POINT WAS CALLED THE CLASS THAT THE STARS FELL ON. THEY HAD ABOUT 160 GRADUATES AND 57 OF THEM MADE GENERAL. I THINK THE CLASS OF 2015 IN THIS LEGISLATURE COULD BE THE CLASS THAT THE STARS FELL ON IN THE LEGISLATURE. MIGHT HAVE HIT A COUPLE OF THEM IN THE HEAD--I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT--(LAUGHTER) BUT...AND I THINK IT'S PROBABLY THE SECOND-BEST CLASS I'VE EVER SEEN, COMPARED TO THE CLASS OF 2009. (LAUGHTER) AND I WILL NOT GO INTO THAT CLASS. BUT ANYWAY, THANK YOU, NEW MEMBERS. I HAVE NOT SEEN A CLASS HIT THE GROUND RUNNING THE WAY THIS CLASS DID. WE HAD NINE BRAND-NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND TWO COMMITTEE CHAIRS MOVE TO NEW COMMITTEES, NEW LEADERSHIP, HAD A NEW SPEAKER THAT SEVEN YEARS AGO HAD TO ASK WHERE THE MEN'S REST ROOM WAS, AND TOOK ME A LITTLE WHILE TO FIND IT. BUT I APPLAUD THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR THE WORK THAT THEY DO IN MAKING THIS BODY RUN. WE TACKLED SOME OF THE...NEBRASKA'S TOUGHEST ISSUES, AND WHETHER YOU CAME DOWN ON WHICH SIDE, THEY WERE HARD VOTES: THE PRISON OVERCROWDING, THE REPEAL OF THE DEATH PENALTY, ROADS FUNDING, PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. WE HAD ALMOST \$150 MILLION OF ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF OVER THE TWO YEARS, \$128 MILLION IN THE PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FUND AND \$20 MILLION UNDER THE NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF. WE PASSED A BIENNIAL BUDGET. I WAS JUST READING IN...THE NCSL SENT OUT A NOTE THAT THERE ARE TWO STATES THAT CAN'T ADJOURN RIGHT NOW BECAUSE THEY CAN'T BALANCE THEIR BUDGET. WE GOT IT DONE. I WANT TO REITERATE ONE THING, AND I'VE LEARNED THIS: THE LEGISLATURE IS A PROCESS, NOT AN EVENT. EVERYTHING THAT I JUST TALKED ABOUT, THE TOUGH ISSUES, WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON THOSE. I DON'T SEE ANY OF THOSE AS BASICALLY DONE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK, BECAUSE IT'S A PROCESS, AS WE WORK

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THROUGH THESE DIFFICULT ISSUES. THE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, THE AVERAGE GENERAL FUND SPENDING GROWTH OF 3.5 PERCENT PER YEAR WAS THE FIFTH LOWEST OUT OF THE LAST 15 BIENNIAL BUDGETS. EXCLUDING THE \$20 MILLION FOR LB259, THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF, THE TWO-YEAR SPENDING GROWTH WAS 3.3 PERCENT. THE 3.5 PERCENT AVERAGE SPENDING GROWTH IS ALMOST 1 PERCENT BELOW THE 20-YEAR AVERAGE OF 4.3 PERCENT. WE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE GOVERNOR TO COME IN WITH A REASONABLE BUDGET THAT HELPS NEBRASKA WHILE TRYING TO PUT A LID ON GROWTH AND SPENDING. WHILE OTHER SPENDING GROWTH IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE GOVERNOR'S ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION, THERE WERE NO VETOES ON THE MAINLINE BUDGET. THE GOVERNOR SIGNED AND CONCURRED WITH THE BUDGET. AFTER ALL THE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS, THE CASH RESERVE FUND STILL RETAINS AN UNOBLIGATED BALANCE OF ALMOST \$700 MILLION AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR ALL FUTURE TRANSFERS ENACTED. THOSE OF YOU THAT WERE PART OF THE CLASS OF 2009 REMEMBER THE TOUGH DAYS WHEN WE SAT HERE IN THIS BODY AND WE WOULD KILL A BILL THAT HAD A THOUSAND-DOLLAR FISCAL NOTE ON IT, BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY MONEY. I THINK IT'S VERY PRUDENT TO HAVE AN APPROPRIATE CASH RESERVE. I THINK SOMETIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE IT'S GOING TO COME IN VERY HANDY. ONE SAVING I'M NOT REAL PROUD OF IS THAT WE SAVED \$10,203 BY ENDING THIS SESSION A DAY EARLY. THAT PER DIEM TO A POOR, RETIRED SCHOOL TEACHER LIKE MYSELF IS VERY, VERY IMPORTANT. (LAUGHTER) MARILYN DECIDED THAT WE WILL SKIP LUNCH TODAY TO TRY AND MAKE UP FOR THAT. IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL SESSION. WE PASSED 247 BILLS; WE PASSED ANOTHER 25 BILLS BY AMENDMENT; 272 BILLS THAT HAD BEEN HEARD IN COMMITTEE WERE PASSED BY THIS BODY. THE STATUS FOR OUR 107 PRIORITY BILLS INCLUDES 79 PASSED INTO LAW, WITH 3 OF THOSE VIA VETO OVERRIDE; 7 WERE VETOED WITH NO OVERRIDE; 6 FAILED TO MOVE BEYOND GENERAL FILE; 6 FAILED TO MOVE BEYOND SELECT FILE; 1 FAILED ON FINAL READING; 6 ARE HELD IN COMMITTEE; 1 INDEFINITELY POSTPONED BY THE COMMITTEE; AND 5 BILLS WILL BE DEBATED NEXT YEAR AS CARRYOVER PRIORITY BILLS. AND THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE THOSE BILLS WILL NOT HAVE TO USE THEIR PRIORITY NEXT YEAR, BECAUSE I MADE A COMMITMENT THAT WHEN WE RAN OUT OF TIME ON PRIORITY BILLS THEY WILL BE CARRIED FORWARD AND WE WILL HEAR THEM FIRST NEXT YEAR. SO IF YOU WANT TO, YOU HAVE ALL SUMMER AND ALL FALL TO POUND ON SENATOR TYSON LARSON. (LAUGHTER) THANK YOU TO THE NEBRASKA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE GAVEL-TO-GAVEL COVERAGE OF THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE TO CITIZENS ACROSS THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. FROM SCOTTSBLUFF TO OMAHA, SOUTH SIOUX CITY TO RED CLOUD, THE CITIZENS OF NEBRASKA CAN WATCH US. I

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WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THE STAFF BECAUSE, AS WE ALL KNOW, THE 49 OF US, IF WE WERE LEFT TO OUR OWN WHIMS, WE PROBABLY WOULDN'T GET A WHOLE LOT DONE IN HERE. WE HAVE A GREAT, DEDICATED STAFF; AND I THINK EVERY ONE OF THEM LOVES THE PLACE AS MUCH AS WE DO. SO I WANT TO HAVE THEM RISE AND BE RECOGNIZED, BECAUSE THEY'RE THE ONES THAT REALLY MAKE THIS PLACE WORK. NOW WAIT A MINUTE. I'M GOING TO INTRODUCE THEM. EVERYBODY SIT DOWN AGAIN. YOU'RE GOING TO GET INTRODUCED, NOT QUITE INDIVIDUALLY BUT CLOSE ENOUGH. FIRST, THE CLERK'S OFFICE, PATRICK O'DONNELL, DICK BROWN, INCLUDES PEOPLE WE SEE UP IN FRONT EVERY DAY, BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES THE BILL ROOM, TRANSCRIBERS, UNICAMERAL INFORMATION OFFICE, LEGISLATIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER, SERGEANT AT ARMS, LEGISLATIVE PAGES. IF THEY WOULD RISE, AND WE WILL GIVE THEM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE. NEXT, THE NEBRASKA STATE PATROL. LIEUTENANT TODD KINGHORN, EXECUTIVE OF THE STATE CAPITOL PROTECTION, IS THE DETAIL SUPERVISOR. LET'S GIVE THEM (APPLAUSE)...THE FISCAL OFFICE--HOW LONG DID IT TAKE THE FRESHMAN SENATORS TO UNDERSTAND THE TERM "DEATH BY FISCAL NOTE"? DID IT TAKE YOU VERY LONG TO FIGURE THAT OUT? THEY DO AN OUTSTANDING JOB. I SEE THEM SMILING OVER HERE--MIKE CALVERT, DIRECTOR; TOM BERGQUIST, DEPUTY DIRECTOR--UNDER THE NORTH BALCONY. I HAVE TO ADMIT I HAVE WORKED OUT A DEAL WITH THEM: I TELL THEM WHAT I WANT THE FISCAL NOTE TO BE ON MY BILLS AND THEY JUST WORK TO COME UP WITH THAT AMOUNT, SO IT WORKS REAL WELL. (LAUGHTER) THE REVISOR'S OFFICE, THEY WORK SO HARD IN GETTING BILLS TURNED AROUND, GETTING BILLS BACK, THE WHOLE THING. AND, JOANNE PEPPERL, REVISOR OF STATUTES; SCOTT HARRISON, ASSISTANT REVISOR OF STATUTES--I BELIEVE THEY'RE IN THE SOUTH BALCONY--THANK YOU SO MUCH. THE LEGISLATIVE ACCOUNTING AND BUDGETING OFFICE, BETTER KNOWN AS "SENATOR HADLEY, YOU CAN'T PUT THAT ON YOUR EXPENSE ACCOUNT," DIANE NICKOLITE, BUSINESS MANAGER, IF THEY'RE HERE, IF THEY WOULD RISE AND BE RECOGNIZED BY YOUR NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE. THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DIVISION DOES AN OUTSTANDING JOB OF GIVING US RESEARCH, HELPING US WITH ITEMS AND BILLS. THAT'S NANCY CYR IN THE OFFICE. THEY'RE IN THE SOUTH BALCONY. THE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION, UNDER MARTHA CARTER--THEY'RE OVER HERE UNDER THE NORTH BALCONY--LET'S GIVE THEM A HAND. A GROUP THAT I'M REALLY IMPRESSED WITH AS A PART OF OUR STATE GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE THE OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE, WHICH IS AN OUTSTANDING PART OF GOVERNMENT THAT ALLOWS THE AVERAGE CITIZEN WHO FEELS THAT THEY HAVE HAD...BEEN WRONGED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE A VENUE THAT THEY CAN COME AND HOPEFULLY FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED. THAT'S MARSHALL LUX, THE OMBUDSPERSON, AND

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HIS OFFICE. THEY'RE UP IN THE NORTH BALCONY. AND LASTLY, THE COMMITTEE STAFF AND INDIVIDUAL SENATOR STAFF. I KNOW THE SENATORS WANT TO WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS BECAUSE WE AREN'T GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN UNTIL NEXT JANUARY. (LAUGHTER) NO, THAT ISN'T TRUE. WE'LL BE AROUND A LOT THIS SUMMER DOING THE WORK. BUT THEY WORK THE TIRELESS HOURS TO HELP US PREPARE AND DO OUR JOB OUT HERE. SO WOULD EVERY COMMITTEE STAFF AND SENATOR STAFF PLEASE RISE AND ACCEPT OUR APPLAUSE. AGAIN, THANK YOU ALL. I'M GOING TO WISH YOU A GREAT SUMMER, A GREAT FALL. BUT DO YOU KNOW WHAT? I CAN TELL THE PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA OUR WORK IS NOT DONE. ESPECIALLY YOU FRESHMEN WILL FIND THIS IS...WILL BE A BUSY TIME OF THE YEAR, WITH ALL OF THE STUDY COMMITTEES WE HAVE AND ALL THE WORK WE HAVE TO DO. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [LB259]

SENATOR COASH: MR. CLERK.

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, THE NEXT ITEM, SENATOR...MR. SPEAKER, WE HAVE THE MOTION WITH RESPECT TO MOTIONS IN PREPARATION OF SINE DIE, BUT SPECIFICALLY THE SUSPENSION OF THE RULE TO INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THOSE BILLS YOU DISCUSSED.

SPEAKER HADLEY: WHAT I AM OFFERING AS A HOUSEKEEPING MOTION THAT IS INTRODUCED BY THE SPEAKER AT THE END OF EACH ODD-NUMBERED YEAR. WHAT THIS MOTION DOES IS ALLOW US TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO INDEFINITELY POSTPONE ALL THE BILLS SITTING ON GENERAL FILE WHOSE CONTENTS HAVE BEEN AMENDED INTO ANOTHER BILL THAT HAS PASSED. SINCE I WILL NOT BE SCHEDULING THESE BILLS NEXT YEAR, THIS ALLOWS US TO BEGIN WITH A CLEAN WORKSHEET NEXT YEAR. IN OTHER WORDS, ALL OF THE CARRYOVER BILLS LISTED ON THE GENERAL FILE ON NEXT YEAR'S WORKSHEET WILL BE BILLS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE SCHEDULED FOR DEBATE. ALTHOUGH, DO KEEP IN MIND THAT SOME OF THE CARRYOVER BILLS, BILLS FAILING CLOTURE, BILLS FAILING TO ADVANCE, AND BILLS BRACKETED WOULD NEED TO BE SELECTED AS A 2016 PRIORITY BEFORE I WOULD SCHEDULE THEM. WITH THAT EXPLANATION, I ASK FOR A GREEN VOTE TO ADOPT THIS MOTION.

SENATOR COASH: THANK YOU, SPEAKER HADLEY. MEMBERS, YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, MR. CLERK.

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CLERK: 43 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF SPEAKER HADLEY'S MOTION.

SENATOR COASH: MOTION IS ADOPTED. SENATOR SMITH FOR A MOTION.

SENATOR SMITH: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT THE LEGISLATURE APPROVE THE PREPARATION AND PRINTING OF THE PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL, SESSION LAWS, AND INDEXES BY PATRICK J. O'DONNELL AND THAT HE BE DIRECTED TO SEND EACH, TO EACH MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE A COPY OF THE PERMANENT JOURNAL AND SESSION LAWS.

SENATOR COASH: MEMBERS, YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. OPPOSED, NAY. MOTION IS ADOPTED. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED.

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT THE JOURNAL FOR THE EIGHTY-NINTH DAY, AS PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE, BE APPROVED.

SENATOR COASH: THANK YOU, SENATOR BLOOMFIELD. MEMBERS, YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. MOTION IS ADOPTED. SENATOR NORDQUIST, YOU ARE RECOGNIZED.

SENATOR NORDQUIST: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION, OF THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE, HAVING FINISHED ALL BUSINESS BEFORE IT, NOW AT 11:54 A.M., ADJOURN SINE DIE.

SENATOR COASH: THANK YOU, SENATOR NORDQUIST. MEMBERS, YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. WE ARE ADJOURNED SINE DIE.