

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Floor Debate January 20, 2023

KELLY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the twelfth day of the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain today is Senator Moser. Please rise.

MOSER: Father, we thank you for your many blessings on our nation and state. Give us wisdom and inspiration to make good decisions. We thank you for our colleagues here in the Capitol and in Washington. Bless also our friends and coworkers at home who carry on without us while we are here in Lincoln. Though at times we fail to live up to your standards, Lord, we ask your forgiveness in the name of your son, Jesus. Please bless us and all our work. Amen.

KELLY: Thank you, Senator. I recognize Senator Dorn for the Pledge of Allegiance.

DORN: Colleagues, colleagues, please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

KELLY: Thank you. I call to order the twelfth day of the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: There's a quorum present, Mr. President.

KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections this morning.

KELLY: Are there any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: There are, Mr. President. Agency reports electronically filed with the Legislature can be found on the Nebraska Legislature's website. Additionally, report of registered lobbyists as of January 19, 2023. Reference report from the Referencing Committee referring LB628 through LB812. In addition to LR27CA, LR28CA, LR29CA and LR30CA, and LR31, as well as a rereference of LB355, LB539 and LB116. Communication from the Governor appointing the Chief Information Officer. Additionally, amendments to be printed: Senator Brewer to LB77. And a notice of committee hearing from the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

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KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Walz would like to recognize her granddaughter, Eva, from Fremont, Nebraska, who is in the north balcony. Please recognize Eva. Senator Briese for an announcement.

BRIESE: Thank, thank you, Mr. President. As you all know, this session has been particularly difficult on our Bill Drafting Office, as evidenced by the 812 bills that were introduced, along with a number of proposed constitutional amendments. I wanted to take a moment this morning to recognize the Bill Drafting staff for their work these past few weeks and months, without whom our work as a body would not be possible. First of all, I'm going to list these folks: Revisor of Statutes, Marcia McClurg; Assistant Revisor of Statutes, Micah Uher; Associate Revisors of Statutes: Mark Ludwig and Andrew Conroy; legal counsels and Bill Drafters: Matthew Pernicek, Loguen Blazek, Dana McNeil, Quinn Conzemius; Statute Technician, Jane Plettner; Assistant Statute Technicians: Suzanne Tesina, Brandi Thorn, Marilee McPherson, Gaylena Gibson, Saige Hastings, and Alexander Harrison. I think we all owe a deep debt of gratitude to these folks for their hard work and diligence in helping us get through this and making this place run. So let's show our appreciation to these folks with a round of applause for them. Thank you, Mr. President.

KELLY: Speaker Arch for an announcement.

ARCH: Thank you, Mr. President. It's Friday, and so this is the announcement is to anticipation of, of next week. So next Monday, we begin committee hearings at 1:30. A reminder that during the week of January 23, hearings will only take place in the afternoon. And then the following two weeks, January 30 through February 10, committees will hold public hearings both morning and afternoon following a 9 a.m. check-in on the floor. Monday and Tuesday of next week, January 23 and 24, also will be check-in days with a 10 a.m. start time. Wednesday, January 25, we will convene at 9:30 a.m. and at 10:00, Governor Pillen will deliver his State of the State address. The start time for Thursday and Friday will be 9 a.m. unless otherwise announced next week. Adjournment times for Thursday and Friday will be contingent upon any legislative business we may have to address, such as committee confirmation reports, motions to withdraw, etcetera. So that's a, a preview of, of what next week's schedule looks like. With respect to today's agenda, I'm scheduling a motion by Senator Lowe, at his request, to suspend Rule 3, Section 14, to permit the cancellation of a public hearing without seven days' notice. The need for the hearing cancellation was brought to my attention after I published today's agenda. Because this is a hearing scheduled for Monday, it's preferable to have the cancellation finalized today to provide a few

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days additional notice to the public. And I'll let Senator Lowe explain the need for the cancellation. I'm just announcing my change to the agenda.

KELLY: Mr. Clerk, for motions.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lowe would move to suspend the rules, Rule 3, Section 14, to permit cancellation of public hearing by the General Affairs Committee scheduled for January 23, 2023, for two gubernatorial appointments.

KELLY: You've heard the motion. Senator Lowe to open.

LOWE: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I make a motion today to suspend Rule 3, Section 14. The Clerk's Office has not received all the necessary paperwork on two individuals that the General Affairs Committee has scheduled for confirmation hearing on Monday, January 23. Please vote yes to suspend the rules so we can remove these two individuals from the agenda for that day. We will include them on a later day. Thank you.

KELLY: Thank you, Senator Lowe. No one in the queue, Senator Lowe to close. Senator Lowe waives. We will proceed to a vote on the motion to suspend the rules. All those in favor vote aye; those opposed nay. It's a machine vote. Takes 30 votes. Is there anyone else who wishes to vote who has not voted? Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays on suspension of the rules.

KELLY: The motion to suspend the rules passes. We'll stand at ease until we can receive all of the notices for committee hearings.

[EASE]

KELLY: Mr. Clerk, for items.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Notice of cancellation of committee hearings from the General Affairs Committee pursuant to the rules suspension. Additionally, notice of committee hearings from the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, the Business and Labor Committee, and the Judiciary Committee. Name adds: Senator Hardin, name added to LB67, LB96, LB142, LB330-- excuse me, LB343; and Senator Ben Hansen to LB795. Finally, Mr. President, Senator Erdman would move to adjourn the body until Monday, January 23 at 10:00 a.m.

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KELLY: You've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. The motion is successful. The Legislature is adjourned for the day.