

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Floor Debate January 23, 2023

KELLY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the thirteenth day of the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain today is Chaplain Mike Mennard from the New Creation Community Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. He is a guest of Senator Dorn.

MIKE MENNARD: Thank you. What an honor to be here. Am I allowed to tell you you can sit or do you have to remain standing? OK. Well, as-- as said, I'm Mike Mennard. I'm the pastor of New Creation Community. It's an honor to be here. And I imagine, at least I-- I like to imagine that it's an honor for you, too, not because I'm here, but because the people of this great state, which includes me, put you here. And thank you. Thank you for what you do, because I know it's not easy. You know, Simon Peter, one of Jesus's closest friends, wrote the following words to the ever-exploding number of converts, so Peter wrote these words shortly before he, like his lord, savior and best friend, was crucified. So his words are found in his first letter, in Chapter 4, and they're old words but they still seem pertinent. Here's what he wrote. He said, be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it. Let it be-- let it be God's words, if it's-- if it's your words, because if your gift is words, let it be God's words. And if it's help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything, and he'll get all the credit as the one mighty in everything. I think that's pertinent. Let's pray. Father God, we are grateful for the honor of being here today, and may we never lose the sense of awe and duty of the work happening here. And I pray for every single senator, every single person in this building, that each one will be used by you in a way to help our state be a place where Peter's words can come true, that we can be generous in all things. And let our words be not just our words; let them be God's words and let them have grace just covering them as we deal with each other. And I pray that your spirit will be upon us, and we pray this in the name of Jesus, amen. Thank you.

KELLY: Thank you. Senator Dover with the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you. I call to order the thirteenth day of the One Hundred Eighth Legislative [SIC], First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call.

KELLY: Mr. Clerk, please record.

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

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

CLERK: I have no corrections this morning.

KELLY: Senator Brown-- Brandt would like to announce his guests this morning: in the north balcony, about 30 members of ABATE in Nebraska. Please welcome that group of guests. Senator Dorn would like to recognize Dr. Eric Thomsen of Beatrice, who is serving as family physician of the day. Please welcome Dr. Thomsen. Mr. Clerk, are there any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: There are, Mr. President. Motion from Senator Hunt to rerefer LB626 to the Judiciary Committee pursuant to Rule 6, Section 2(a). Additionally, notice of committee hearings from the Agriculture Committee, the Education Committee, the General Affairs Committee, and the Urban Affairs Committee, as well as the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. Additionally, notice of cancellation from the-- of the committee hearing from Business and Labor Committee. Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 19, Senator Dorn has filed a Potential Conflict of Interest Statement under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act; that statement will be on file in the Clerk of the Legislature's Office. Amendments to be printed from Senator Hunt to LB626. Name adds: Senator John Cavanaugh to LB20; Senator Aguilar to LB232; Hardin to LB253 and LB254; Conrad to LB285, LB357, and LB365; Senator Hardin to LB400 and LB450 and LB456; Senator Conrad to LB487; Senator Blood to LB509 and LB510; Senator Conrad to LB590; Aguilar to LB714 and LB715; and Senator Lippincott to LB771. The Reference Committee will meet in Room 1525 upon adjournment; Reference Committee, 1525 upon adjournment. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

KELLY: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR25. Mr. Clerk, for a motion, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vargas would move to adjourn the body until Tuesday, January 24, at 10:00 a.m.

KELLY: Members, you have heard the motion to adjourn. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed? The motion carries. We are adjourned for the day.