

introduce, first of all in the North balcony from Senator Sieck's district, 16 fourth grade students and five adults from York Emanuel Lutheran School, York, Nebraska; Mrs. Patricia Jones, teacher; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Coates, parents; Mrs. Lois Maple, parent; Mrs. Chloeann Stare, parent, in the North balcony. Would you hold up your hands so we can wish you good morning. And under the North balcony as a guest of Senator Wagner is Dr. Dale Karre of Ord, Nebraska, underneath the North balcony. Where are you, sir? Okay. Senator Beutler, do you wish to speak to amendment number two of LB 290?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I am very much opposed to this part of the amendment and let me try to tell you why. First of all, notice that what we are doing, that the main change in the amendment, whether we have Senator Clark's bill without the amendment or whether we have this amendment we are going to have specifications, we are going to have competitive bidding now. The question is, the question that is posed, the issue in this particular amendment is whether we are going to use our regular bidding procedures or whether we are going to have this new committee composed of the heads of several departments that are going to make this decision with regard to our license plates. Now let me ask you just to think about that for a minute. The State of Nebraska must procure literally thousands of different items year in and year out and do you think that it is possible to have a committee for each type of item that we purchase? What if we had a committee for marbles and a committee for pencils and a committee for this and a committee for that, not only is it a committee but it is the heads of all these departments. From a procurement point of view, this is absolutely ludicrous. So, I hope just from the point of view of the administration and the point of view of the precedent that you are setting with this kind of amendment, that you will reject it on that basis. Now, Senator DeCamp has pulled one of the oldest lawyer's tricks on me. He came up to me before we began discussing this and said, "What is wrong with this, Chrissy?" And I said, "But, John, you want to play a new game. You don't want to play in the Legislature any more. You want to play in the Administrative Agency." He said, "Well, yes, that's right." Then he goes to the speaker and he says, "Now, Chrissy is going to say that we want to play a new game." Then when Chrissy stands up to say it, everybody thinks, "Well, Johnny said Chrissy was going to say that, so, it must not be right." Please, don't let Johnny DeCamp manipulate you like this. Do you know what is happening? It is as simple as this. It is like Johnny came in with Jim Ryan and the boys and said, "We'll see who is champion and we will play a chess game