

May 24, 1989

Governor may have for the Legislature.

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Would the following members please serve on that: Senator Langford, please; Senator Labedz; Senator Conway; Senator Hartnett; and Senator Abboud? Okay. You've heard the motion. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. Now would those people please serve on that?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Sergeant At Arms.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mr. President, your committee escorting the Governor of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, Kay A. Orr, Governor of the State of Nebraska.

GOVERNOR ORR: Thank you, and please stay seated. Thank you all, but please. Thank you. The hour is late and I know everybody's tired so please be seated. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I appreciate very much the opportunity to come at the close of this 1989 Legislative Session and I do realize the courtesy extended to me and say thank you for allowing the "fat lady" to come sing. Well, now you are alert enough to know that it is over now. The fat lady does get to sing. Well, I've come to express my personal appreciation to you for your efforts. Yes, the days have been long and you've worked very, very hard, but the reward comes with the knowledge that you've achieved a number of significant goals. You know, it was at the beginning of this century that Teddy Roosevelt spoke of the rewards of hard work. He said, "Far and away, the best prize that life offers is a chance to work hard at work worth doing," and, Senators, your work is worth doing. Our economy is strong and that strength is in stark contrast to 23 out of 50 states that are currently considering raising taxes to meet their states' needs, and our strong economy is a direct result of the collective actions of these three legislative sessions. You have placed us in a position not only to resist a tax increase but to provide significant tax relief to Nebraskans, and because of the actions of this Legislature 1989 can be called the year of the taxpayer. Cooperation, compromise and hard work have led to an agreement that will provide property tax relief to Nebraskans later this year and income taxpayers will also benefit this year. And, in