

January 10, 1990

LB 993

LR 231

much longer than paper products. I was just doing an informal count this morning, as I got here early, and there were, I think, 15 coffee cups on senators' desks, so I think the way to remedy this problem is very simple. Each of us, I think, can afford a coffee cup. If you can't, I've got several down in my office I'd be happy to provide for you but the idea is to look at a problem that I think more and more people are concerned with which is the environment of our state and our country, and this is one way I think that we as a body, can send a message to state government that we are concerned about trying to find alternative methods of handling the waste problem that we have. We'll have a solid waste discussion later this afternoon or this morning on LB 163, but I guess I would like to ask the body if they would consider, by the passage of this resolution, to restrict the use of styrofoam cups here on the floor of the Legislature by ourselves and our staffs so that we can in some way send a message to the people of Nebraska that we are concerned about our environment, protecting the ozone layer, but, hopefully, contributing to relieving some of the landfill problems we've got in our country and our state. Senator Hefner does have an amendment that will be coming shortly which I have no problem with and I think he will explain it at that time, but I would ask for the adoption of the resolution.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner. Mr. Clerk, have you an amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, I do. The first amendment I have is by Senator Moore, but he is excused until he arrives. I would then, Mr. President, with your permission, proceed to Senator Hefner's amendment which is on page 157 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, as you remember, last year we passed a bill in regards to degradable plastics and I commend Senator Rod Johnson now saying to this group here, let's not use styrofoam cups anymore because it's not degradable. Like Senator Johnson said, they would last up to 300 years. Well, I have facts that says that it will last much longer than that, so I think we need to be mindful of that. But what my amendment does, it says that until we come up with a degradable product, I've introduced a bill, the number is LB 993 that says by January 1, 1992, nondegradable styrofoam cups could