

March 28, 1990

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between the crosses, row on row. They mark our place, and in the sky the larks still bravely singing, fly, scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the dead. Short days ago we lived, felt dawn, saw a sunset glow, loved and were loved, and now we lie in Flanders Fields. Take up our quarrel with the foe, to you from falling hands we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die, ye shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders Fields. I urge your support of this resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I hate to do this, and, Senator Dierks, I'm not talking about the substance of your resolution, but I think with all the talk of drugs, the kind of legislation that people in this body and other Legislatures will seek to enact that really constitute a war against black people and poor people than a war on drugs, I don't know whether it's appropriate to designate a month Poppy Month. And I'm saying this in all seriousness. There are things that take on a symbolical significance. And I wouldn't want anybody to think that the Legislature, tongue in cheek, decided to take this plant, which is the cause of so much misery throughout the world, and honor it by declaring a month a month to honor the poppy. It would have been more appropriate, I think, had Senator Dierks decided to set aside a month in honor of those people or those principles that the resolution goes for. But there is no way that I will vote for a resolution that is to honor this flower. And, if you'll give me a moment, I want to read the "Now, therefore".

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm not through. You weren't paying attention.

PRESIDENT: Oh, excuse me.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I mean you're paying attention to Senator Pirsch, but not to me. But as Speaker...

PRESIDENT: Yeah.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...as Chair you don't have to, but I wanted to read this. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the members of