

April 3, 1990

PRESIDENT: A minute and a half, minute and 10 seconds.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, I will just...I appreciate Senator Hannibal's desire to raise these questions. That is always the problem you get into when you suspend the rules to take up the debate. The other counterveiling problem we have is 30 or so amendments prevent the possibility of actually dealing with the issue and so I guess we'll have to balance off the concerns of Senator Hannibal with the concern of taking some action on this legislation. I think, obviously, it's worthwhile to spend a little time deciding whether that's the best course or not. But I appreciate Senator Hannibal's concerns but I think also we have to recognize we need to take some action at some point on this legislation.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senator Withem.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. President. I guess it's fairly clear today we've been playing pretty fast and loose with the rules of this Legislature and I am a victim of voting for some of those fast and loose rules today to deal with some of what I consider to be important issues. But, you know, we're all adults here, I think we all know that at this time of year things like this happen. I mean, I've been here eight years and I have seen it happen every year I have been here. At the end of the session we start to get nervous as we have wasted away the time and we suddenly say that time is of a premium and we've got to begin the process of moving some of these key pieces of legislation. And while I didn't agree with the whole package of bills that were up there this morning, it appeared likely that unless we voted as a package to move some of these things, some of the other things that I do find as meritorious pieces of legislation we should probably have gone ahead and moved. But, you know, as I see it, Senator Moore made a comment that this is a unique session and I guess it is. In the eight years I have been here, this is probably the most frustrating session that I have been involved in. We have had a real lack of focus, I think, on what we want to get accomplished this year and maybe it's because of the issues. Maybe it's because of abortion. Maybe it's because of gun control. Maybe it's because of low level or a lot of the other important issues facing Nebraska. But I haven't seen, in this session at least, the coming together of, I guess, the energies and ideas of different people