

April 9, 1992

LB 1019, 1286

and gentlemen, I'm going to give you a lesson on priorities one of these days. Today we have done the most stupid thing we could ever do by adopting the consent calendar. We take a bill that is a piece of trash and because it has no amendments, no dissenting votes, we shove it up to the front and it moves through the bill, and sometimes we've been embarrassed because of the content of the bills, but even worse than that is that each of us, each of us get to choose a priority bill and somebody's bill that declares the bed bug to be the state bug is the equivalent of an appropriations bill or an equivalent of a health care bill or an equivalent of any other major revenue bill. Absolute nonsense! Ladies and gentlemen, the people of the State of Nebraska do not even know that LB 1286 was introduced.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I do not know why it was chosen not to publicize the bill. I continue to see editorials about the cost of health care and the terrible problems we face, not one positive word in support of the bill in the press, not even the report that the bill had been introduced. And so here, we say, oh no, we're not going to do it. Senator Byars is within his rights. He can do as he sees fit to do. I would do the same on certain issues, certain time and certain places. We all have the ability to use the system. But, ladies and gentlemen, if this is where the Legislature bogs down, then so be it. So be it. But this piece of legislation, this amendment is as worthwhile as any other piece of legislation which has been introduced this session and it deserves its day in court; hasn't had it. Hasn't had it while we talked about trash. Hasn't had it while we talked about garbage. Hasn't had it while we talked about environment. Ladies and gentlemen, what good is the best environment in the world?

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: What good is the best housing if you can't afford to live in it and enjoy good health?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely, on the bracket motion.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I know Senator Byars is doing this as a point of frustration and I understand Senator Hall is doing the same. I guess we're all at that