

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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stand at ease at bill introduction until the State of the State as the Governor's address.

EASE

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Speaker Kristensen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. President, I move that a committee of five be appointed to escort the Governor of the state of Nebraska to the Legislative Chamber to deliver his State of the State address.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. Motion carries. Will the following senators please escort Governor Johanns to the Chamber: Senator Baker, Beutler, Raikes, Redfield, and Suttle. Madam Sergeant of Arms.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mr. President, your committee now escorting the Governor of the great state of Nebraska, Mike Johanns, and his wife, Stephanie.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: (Gavel) Governor Mike Johanns.

GOVERNOR JOHANNNS: Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, distinguished guests, friends and fellow Nebraskans, one year ago I came before you to present my first State of the State address. I shared with you a blueprint for implementing a vision of less government, lower taxes, protecting our families, and building our economy, and together, we advanced that vision. While addressing a wide variety of issues important to Nebraskans and important to the future of the state, our common focus remained on that four point agenda. More specifically, the budget we agreed upon was based upon the principles of spending restraint, funding our priorities, and providing tax relief. We achieved the most conservative spending growth in our state's budget in a decade. We renewed a commitment to providing services that ensure a continued quality of life for our citizens, and we provided more than \$105 million in tax relief measures. I am proud of that first year effort and I am very grateful for the partnership that we developed during my first year in office. Today, I am presenting my legislative initiatives and my recommendations for mid-biennium