

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 510

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion to override the veto.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, this bill has been through quite a bit. It had failed to get the required number of votes the first time it appeared on Final Reading. Fortunately for me, and justice, Senator Bourne made the motion to reconsider. Some people, at least two or three who were against the bill, voted for the reconsideration motion so that there could be a fair vote taken. I appreciate the comments made by Senator Landis in setting a context in which this bill exists; that it's not one of those bedrock life-or-death bills to most people on the floor. It has been made such to me by the way I've been dealt with by the Governor. At first, I was going to go into some detail about that, but then I changed my mind. What I'm going to do is allow my colleagues the opportunity to express their views on this motion, then I will save my comments for my closing. When we dealt with the reconsideration I made no comment at all. I will not make a great deal of comment this morning, but I do hope that I can get enough votes to override this veto. That means that I need 30. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. On the motion to override veto, Senator Schmitt.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members, I rise this morning in support of Senator Chambers' motion to override and basically the reason I do, I don't believe that we need politics in law enforcement, and the Attorney General is the chief of law enforcement in the state, in my opinion. Few years back when Governor Kerrey was Governor, he chose to go outside the State Patrol and appoint the colonel. I think that was probably one of the bigger mistakes that was made as far as hindrance to the Patrol. Since that time, it has been political. Every time we change Governors we change colonels. I don't believe that's good for law enforcement. For seven years down here or approximately seven years, I hope the Government Committee is listening to this, I have tried to get the judges put back on the election ballot or be rotated on the election ballot. The argument has been we don't want to make them political. Well, if we don't want our judges political I