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March 28, 2000 LB 1405

go. But we're going to have to really move forward in a way that I believe brings it back to individual decision and letting people choose...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, I don't support LB 1405 and I probably will support this bracket motion, should it come to that. I wanted to indicate how much I don't appreciate the tactics taken by the proponents of this bill. I don't appreciate the late night phone calls, such that my seven year old, when he's eating his Cheerios, the next morning, asks me, how come the phone kept ringing at night; I don't appreciate my mother calling me upset because she was at the church that she's attended since the 1930's, and when she was there, there was a flyer that she felt had lies in it about me, and I agree, I think they were lies. I don't appreciate her being upset. I don't appreciate hearing from...about other members who are...you know, they're self-described pro-life people who have had the church parking lot leafletted where they attend. I don't appreciate hearing about that. I just wanted to kind of lay that out at the onset. This bill is unconstitutional. It's as simple as that. Four states have had similar bills that have been struck down as unconstitutional. Senator Brashear, in the paper the other day, indicated that the bill would not survive a court challenge. Senator Hilgert, he's an attorney, he knows this bill is unconstitutional. There was no effort made in the committee to work this bill out. We never had an Executive Session where we discussed this bill and how to make it constitutional. The only discussions we had in committee regarding this was when we voted to bring it out of committee, and, as you know, it wasn't...it wasn't advanced. There was no effort made in committee to work it out. I have here in my hand one of the most important documents I've ever signed, and it is the state of Nebraska Oath of Office. It says, I, Patrick J. Bourne do solemnly swear and affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Nebraska. As I indicated, this is probably one of the