

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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LB 1092A

SENATOR ROBAK: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I would just like to say something before I withdraw the A bill. I would like to say that I was elected to the Legislature in 1988 in a very Republican district, one of the most Republican districts in the state possibly, and I was elected in '90, '94, and '98 in a very Republican district, and I was happy to tell my constituents that we have a nonpartisan Legislature. There is a special...they would...when I campaigned, they would ask me what I was and I'd say, well, you see, we have a nonpartisan Legislature. We have a little ballot that goes like...says like this; it says nonpolitical on the top of the ballot. And they...some knew that and some did not, and some said, oh, that's wonderful, they really liked that idea that it was nonpartisan. And when I got down here in '89 and I think Senator Kristensen, you and I were in the same class and Senator Schimek, and I really thought that it was nonpartisan and for a long time I thought that it was nonpartisan and every once in awhile I would see a partisan vote, but not too often. But I will have to say that on this override that the Gov...that Larry Bare put out, I won't say the Governor because I think the Governor doesn't have a clue what is going on in his office, he doesn't have a clue, he sent his...he's so out of touch with reality he has not a clue what is going on. He has his little henchmen out there strong-arming everybody, which is fine. That's his right to do. But I will have to say in the 12 years I've been in this body I have never seen anything so partisan as this override was and the votes on this override. With that, I will just say I am ashamed to go back to my district and tell my constituents that I'm sorry to say that we no longer have a nonpartisan Legislature; we have a bipartisan Legislature. And I'm going to have to tell them that when I have to tell them that this veto wasn't overridden, because I did this for my constituents. I did it for two of my constituents. I didn't have a big lobby out there, a great big whatever anointed by somebody out there asking me to carry a bill. It's easy to carry an easy bill. Anybody can carry an easy bill. What is difficult is not carrying...is carrying a difficult bill that nobody is out there for you but you yourself for your constituents. So I will go back to my...I do a roundup radio show and I will say, I am ashamed to be a Nebraskan anymore because we don't have our traditional nonpartisan Legislature;