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the well-being of the state of Nebraska. When I was a young mother, I didn't sleep when I was tired, I didn't eat when I was hungry, when there was a need at hand. I can't say that I was tireless, because I certainly was tired. But what I pledge to you is that I will carry out the task that is at hand, and I will find the way that will lead us to prosperity in this state again, because our tax policy should be neutral. We live in a free country, and it is our goal as government to protect freedoms and to make sure that our tax policy does not discourage nor encourage the choices and control of our people. They should be a free people to make their choices. We will not reward nor punish with our tax policy. I am committed to fairness. I certainly bring intensity and passion to the task. I ask your consideration. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Redfield. The Chair would recognize Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. When half of us were up there raising our hands, that was the seventh time I've done that. I've been here for 24 years. I started, at the point when I was elected, at 29, and started serving at 30. And only people who have been in this body understand the reward and sacrifice mixture that we have, the time that we take away from our other life, our family, the missed economic opportunities that come from sitting here rather than being at home, and then the reward of doing public service and doing this institution proud. For 19 of those 24 years I have been a Chairman, Urban Affairs, Government Committee, and for the last 14, the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. I have reported the work from the committee to the floor. I've conducted public hearings. I've brought groups together. I will live by your judgment of that service and how well you think I've done that. Because for most of you, I've been a chairman for all the time that you've been in the Legislature, and you had a chance to watch whether or not I do that practice well. For 19 of those 24 years, I've been on the Revenue Committee. And I've stood in the eye of a number of storms; when our bank tax was challenged in court; when our personal property tax system had been struck down by federal courts; when the Orr administration changed the way that we did the income and sales...the income tax, basically, because