

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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April 17, 2003 LB 610

CLERK: LB 610, Senator, I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Mossey.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Mr. Speaker, I move the advancement of LB 610 to E & R for engrossing.

SPEAKER BROMM: Motion is to advance LB 610 to E & R for engrossing. All in favor say aye. Excuse me, I didn't see the light on. We'll back up, Senator Mossey. Senator Chambers, your light is on, on the advancement of LB 610. Apologize for not seeing your light.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's all right, Mr. Speaker. A lot of people don't "see the light" until I call it to their attention. (Laughter) Sometimes I see the light when it's called to my attention also. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I wanted to wait until my bill came up to deal with an issue that I think is of great importance. I handed an article around to all of you this morning about the conduct of the Attorney General before the Washington, D.C., Court of Appeals. For people who are not aware of it, that court, in importance and clout, is just below the United States Supreme Court. It is not a place where you go to be flippant, where you bound in, you're rambunctious, and you conduct yourself like a child. You don't try to make jokes. The interests of the state of Nebraska are at stake. And when an inexperienced, immature adolescent is sent to do the work of a seasoned, competent attorney, embarrassment results. I don't think the Attorney General has sense enough to be embarrassed by what he did, because he doesn't recognize or appreciate the seriousness of it. But the reputation of a state in the minds of the federal courts is determined by the presentations made by those who represent that state in the federal courts. This man, who is the Attorney General, had no litigation experience to speak of, no courtroom experience to speak of. And when you're going to what might be the highest appellate court in the land, other than the U.S. Supreme Court, you send somebody who understands the issues, who knows the law, who conducts himself properly before the judges. And that is not what went before this court when