

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 19, 2003

LB 439

CLERK: 25 ayes, 7 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: The amendment is adopted. Next...I raise the call. Next item on the bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hudkins, I understand you'd like to withdraw AM1106.

SPEAKER BROMM: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further on the bill.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Chambers, on the advancement of LB 439.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Mr. Speaker, forgive me, we ought to advance this bill. Senator Beutler did a very good job explaining about the value of this building, the environs, and what it is we're going to leave to those who come after we no longer are here. Suppose those who were here before us had felt that since Abraham Lincoln lived in a log cabin the Legislature could conduct its business in a log cabin. I'm sure there might have been people who thought it was a tremendous extravagance and waste of money to construct a building such as this in the middle of a prairie. Who would ever see it? What use could it ever be put to that would justify the expenditure of money, the utilization of so much material? Somebody always has to have a vision that extends beyond the tip of the nose. A person has to be able to see farther than the interior of his or her eyelids. If you walk around this building and look at its construction, you might be struck as I am, and probably you wouldn't be because you know more about how buildings are constructed than I do. But when I look at vaulted ceilings constructed of individual bricks, I just visualize in my mind not only how that was put together but who was the first one to conceive of that type of architectural design and then make it a reality. There is much that can be learned in and from this building. I believe that we ought to advance this bill. We need to have in place an institutional method and procedure and process by which this building is going to be preserved. It's not enough to leave it to an occasional