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SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have some written comments that I want to read. But I want to first say a little bit about my personal involvement with this. I do know Mr. Blank and Mr. Hergert. They are acquaintances, but I don't know either one of them well. I was not involved in either one of their campaigns. Mr. Schroeder, from Kearney, is my regent, so I don't live in that regent district, although I do live out there where I heard the ads and so that's why maybe I was a little more tuned in to this issue than some were. The reason I bring this to you today is because I think the office was gained because of unscrupulous means. And also it's because I have great respect for the university. Although I am a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University, my son, my brother, and my brother-in-law are all graduates of the University of Nebraska. I have a great deal of respect for that institution, and I have a great deal of respect for the people who should serve as regents on that Board of Regents. And it's for that reason that I became concerned when it looked like you could obtain this office in the manner that it was obtained, and serve there for six years. And I can tell you, the subject personally bothers me a lot. It bothers me a great deal. And that's why I decided I could not let go if there was something that I could do. And now I'm going to have my written remarks, so that we don't leave any bases uncovered. The subject of this resolution is extraordinary. It is exemplified by the highest fine ever levied by the Accountability and Disclosure Commission for a campaign violation. It is also remarkable because it was a campaign for a seat on the Board of Regents, whose own code of ethics was violated by the misdemeanor leading to the fine. What we have is a candidate for a constitutional state office thumbing his nose at our election laws in order to gain office, and then hiring lobbyists so he can maintain silence as he enjoys the fruits of his wrongdoing. The resolution specifically outlines Hergert's violation. He failed to timely report late contributions, namely, \$44,000 personal loan to his campaign. He loaned himself on...the money, on October 22, 2004, and did not report it until after the election. After choosing not to abide by statutory campaign spending limitations, which was his right, he failed to give timely notice of spending 40 percent of his estimated expenses in the primary, and also failed to timely give the same notice in the