

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 12, 2006 LR 449

agenda item, legislative resolution, LR 449. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 449, proposing adopting articles of impeachment offered by Senators Chambers, Beutler, McDonald, Stuthman, and Thompson. The Nebraska Legislature, on behalf of the State of Nebraska v. C. David Hergert, Regent, University of Nebraska.

Legislative findings:

1) Legislature finds C. David Hergert is a civil officer of the state, and as such, is liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office. C. David Hergert was elected to the University of Nebraska Board of Regents on November 2, 2004, to represent District 7, and he continues to hold the office of University Regent.

2) The Legislature has the "sole power of impeachment by a majority of its members." Impeachment occurs by adoption of a Resolution adopting Articles of Impeachment. Trial occurs thereafter before the Nebraska Supreme Court.

3) Clear and convincing evidence exists to establish that C. David Hergert committed each and all of the impeachable offenses identified in the articles of impeachment in this resolution. Each of these offenses is an impeachable offense, because each is an offense "in its nature or consequences subversive of some fundamental or essential principle of government, or highly prejudicial to the public interest, and this may consist of a violation of the Constitution, of law, of an official oath, or of duty by an act committed or omitted, or without violating a positive law by the abuse of discretionary powers for improper motives or for an improper purpose."

4) The integrity of democratic government in Nebraska rests upon honest and honorable obedience to Nebraska's election laws and other laws by candidates for office. The Legislature previously found and now reaffirms that "there is a compelling state interest in preserving the integrity of the electoral process in state elections by ensuring that these elections are free from corruption and the appearance of corruption and that