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FLOOR DEBATE

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been an impeachment based upon the oath. I asked Mr. Mock to look into that. That was a component of this and it has never been used as an impeachment device, ever, in any jurisdiction. This oath was put into the statutes in 1875, over 100 years prior to the Accountability and Disclosure Act, which is what we are asserting, or the opponents are asserting, that Mr. Hergert violated. It doesn't quite fit. We're trying to put a square peg into a round hole, in my opinion. His conduct, no matter how bad, does not rise to the level of an impeachable offense. When I get up to speak next, I'm going to compare and contrast Mr. Hergert's conduct with the other individuals who have been impeached in Nebraska, and you'll see that it clearly falls short. The others involve bribery, theft, fraud, stealing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: This doesn't even compare.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Brashear, followed by Senator Bourne.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I have modified or modulated my participation in this proceeding for reasons that are amply spread upon the record, and I'm not going to take my time to recite them, and they relate to my prior professional involvement, like we all have lives outside of this Chamber. So I'm going to continue on the modulated approach, but I will also tell you that I'm not going to allow silence to be construed as consent, and I'm not going to allow fiction to become fact by repetitious recitation, nor the truth to be obscured for political purposes. I am not Senator Chambers and I am not Senator Beutler. That's obvious. We all have different standards. But I will tell you this is political. The entirety of this began with a complaint by Christopher John Beutler to the Accountability and Disclosure Commission against Mr. Hergert. Charges were brought by the bureaucratic entity established by Senator Beutler through law. Charges were brought. Defense was engaged. Proceedings ensued in secret, as required by the law passed by Senator Beutler and others of his colleagues at the time, before I came here. They proceeded in secret and then there was a negotiated resolution