

January 18, 1989

LB 53, 57, 123, 537-597
LR 8-12

Mr. President, new bill. (LBs 537-538. Read for the first time by title. See page 268 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair is pleased to announce that Senator Jacklyn Smith of Hastings has visiting the Legislature today Dr. Robert Schlock and 20 students from Hastings College, specifically, psychology and law class, in the east balcony, the rear balcony. Dr. Schlock, would you and your students please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you. We are pleased to have you visiting with us today. Also under the north balcony from David City High School, Senator Schmit announces the following guests, 8 students from David City High School with their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting. We are glad to have you. Mr. Clerk, more bill introductions, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, first of all, your Committee on Urban Affairs, whose Chair is Senator Hartnett, to whom was referred LB 53, instructs me to report the same back to the Legislature with the recommendation that it be advanced to General File; LB 57 General File; LB 123 General File, all signed by Senator Hartnett as Chair of the committee.

Mr. President, new bills. (LBs 539-557 read for the first time by title. See pages 269-72 the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HEFNER PRESIDING

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. Clerk, do you have some more bills to introduce?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Yes, I do, Mr. President. (LBs 558-593 read for the first time by title. See pages 273-81 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HEFNER: Do you want to read the bills into the record?

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, thank you. (LBs 594-597 read for the first time by title. See page 281 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, in addition to those items, I have new resolutions. (Read a brief explanation of LRs 8-12. See

January 19, 1989

LB 94, 247, 570, 576, 683-808

as yet, please contact Joanne immediately. If you don't have the bill that you are expecting, please contact the Bill Drafters Office immediately. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, for the record, I have received a reference report referring LBs 496-599 including resolutions 8-12, all of which are constitutional amendments.

Mr. President, your Committee on Banking, Commerce and Insurance to whom we referred LB 94 instructs me to report the same back to the Legislature with the recommendation that it be advanced to General File with amendments attached. (See pages 320-21 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, I have hearing notices from the Judiciary Committee signed by Senator Chizek as Chair, and a second hearing notice from Judiciary as well as a third hearing notice from Judiciary, all signed by Senator Chizek.

Mr. President, new bills. (Read LBs 683-726 by title for the first time. See pages 321-30 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, a request to add names, Senator Korshoj to LB 570, Senator Smith to LB 576, Senator Baack to 570 and Senator Barrett to LB 247.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Stand at ease.

EASE

SPEAKER BARRETT: More bills, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. (Read LBs 727-776 by title for the first time. See pages 331-42 of the Legislative Journal.)

EASE

SPEAKER BARRETT: More bill introductions.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. (Read LBs 777-808 by title for the first time. See pages 343-50 of the Legislative Journal.)

CLERK: Mr. President, I have reports. Your Committee on

February 14, 1989 LB 147A, 224A, 350A, 361A, 375, 408A, 416
535, 570, 629, 801

indefinitely postponed; LB 375, indefinitely postponed; LB 535, indefinitely postponed; LB 570, LB 629, LB 801, all indefinitely postponed, signed by Senator Hall as Chair of Revenue. (See page 742 of the Legislative Journal.)

New A bills, Mr. President. (Read LB 224A, LB 350A, LB 408A, LB 361A and LB 147A by title for the first time. See page 743 of the Legislative Journal.) That is all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Fine, thank you. We'll move on to LB 416.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 416 was introduced by Senator Robak. (Title read.) The bill was introduced on January 13, referred to the Transportation Committee for public hearing, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Robak, please.

SENATOR ROBAK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I don't want to make light of this situation, but in my office we refer to this as the K-Mart blue light special. LB 416 permits the use of blue flashing lights in conjunction with red and white flashing lights on emergency vehicles. Current law only now uses...permits the use of red and white lights. However, several Nebraska jurisdictions are already using blue with red and white lights. Studies have shown that at night blue and white lights are more visible than red and white lights. The Columbus police chief surveyed over 30 law enforcement agencies in Nebraska and learned that 20 are currently using blue lights. There is some confusion as to whether or not law enforcement agencies have the authority to use blue lights. For example, a city attorney told a police chief that blue lights were authorized while the county attorney told him that they were not. However, since 20 jurisdictions already use the blue lights, obviously, other positive legal opinions have been rendered in this matter. In 1982 a similar bill was introduced in the Legislature. The reason it was defeated at that time was because there were no studies done then to determine the effectiveness of blue lights. Those studies now have been done and they conclusively show that blue lights are much easier for motorists to see at night. During the day red lights are better, but the addition of blue at night greatly increases the visibility of the emergency vehicle. The other arguments were that if the lights were mandatory, it would be too expensive for