

January 16, 1990

LB 1012, 1136-1139
LR 235

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. We have with us this morning, as our chaplain of the day, Pastor Gordon Patterson, of the Calvary United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Would you please rise for the invocation. Pastor Patterson.

REVEREND PATTERSON: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Reverend Patterson. We appreciate your giving us the invocation this morning. Please come back. Roll call, please.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Do you have any messages, reports or announcements today?

CLERK: Mr. President, just one item. I have three reports from a variety of Natural Resource Districts regarding payment of attorney fees. Those reports are required by statute, will be on file for member review in my office. That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 235. Move on to introduction of new bills.

CLERK: Mr. President, new bills. (Read LBs 1136-1139 by title for the first time. See page 329 of the Legislative Journal.) That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Move on to the motion by Senator Wesely, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to withdraw LB 1012. That motion was filed on January 12. It's found on page 309 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, I rise to ask the eternal question of what are we here for? I ask that question in light of this particular motion because it's clear that what we are here for in the Nebraska Legislature is to

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LB 161, 1136-1171, 1181-1194

Mr. President, finally, I have a reference report referring LBs 1136-1171. (See pages 373-74 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, announcement, the Speaker would like to hold a chairmen's meeting tomorrow morning at eight-fifteen in Room 2102. The Speaker is calling a chairmen's meeting tomorrow morning at eight-fifteen in Room 2102. That is all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Do we have some new bills, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, new bills: (Read LBs 1181-1194 by title for the first time. See pages 374-77 of the Legislative Journal.) That's all that I have at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We'll move on to General File, LB 161, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 161 was a bill that was originally introduced by Senators Rod Johnson, Scofield, Coordsen, Baack, Weihing, Schellpeper and Elmer. (Title read.) The bill was introduced on January 5 of last year, Mr. President. It was referred to the Agriculture Committee for public hearing. The bill was brought to the floor with committee amendments attached. It was considered on April 5, Mr. President. At that time Senator Johnson made a motion to bracket the bill until January 1 of this year. I have pending the committee amendments. They have not been adopted yet, Senator.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members, the committee amendments are relatively straightforward. It is simple but I would like to share them with you and indicate that hopefully they are noncontroversial. There are four parts to the committee amendment. The first requires the Department of Agriculture to use other agencies when enforcement is necessary in the question of water quality. The Department of Agriculture is the lead agency in implementing this bill, but in many cases we have expertise, especially with water quality and other areas including the Department of Environmental Control, through their work; the Department of Health for the Safe Drinking Water Act and the State Resources Office and there is just a variety of different agencies that I think the department could turn to for assistance and I think the important thing is to make sure that