

February 2, 1990

LB 187, 399, 465, 708, 821-829, 980
LR 249

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Motion passes. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I move adoption of the amendment as discussed.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Any discussion? Any closing, Senator Chambers? Motion before you is the adoption of the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the Select File amendment.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Motion is adopted. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I move that LB 465 be readvanced to E & R for engrossing.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed same. It's readvanced. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, may I read some items for the record? Mr. President, your Enrolling Clerk has presented to the Governor bills read on Final Reading this morning as of 10:45 a.m. (Re. LB 821, LB 822, LB 399, LB 823, LB 824, LB 825, LB 326, LB 827, LB 828, and LB 829.)

I have an amendment to be printed by Senator Moore to LB 187. Senator Lamb designates LB 980 as one of the Transportation Committee's priority bills. And, Mr. President, new resolution, LR 249 by Senators Scofield and Dierks. (Read brief summary of resolution.) That will be laid over, Mr. President. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (See pages 646-48 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HANNIBAL: We'll proceed to General File, LB 708.

CLERK: Mr. President, 708, I believe, was discussed yesterday by the Legislature. (Read title.) The bill was introduced last year, Mr. President, referred to Judiciary, advanced to General File. Yesterday there was an amendment to the bill by Senator Chambers that was adopted. I now have pending, Mr. President, an amendment to the bill by Senator McFarland. (McFarland amendment appears on page 648 of the Legislative Journal.)

February 5, 1990

LB 81, 350, 350A, 369, 692
LR 249

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Welcome to the 22nd day in this, the Second Session of the Ninety-First Legislature. Our Chaplain of the day, our own Senator Carson Rogers. Senator Rogers. (Gavel.)

SENATOR ROGERS: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: (Gavel.) Thank you very much, Senator Rogers. Roll call.

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

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Are there any corrections to the Journal?

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any reports, messages, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, Enrollment and Review reports LB 81, LB 369, LB 350, LB 350A, and LB 692 to Select File, some of which have E & R amendments attached. That is all that I have, Mr. President. (See pages 658-60 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Proceeding to item five on today's agenda, LR 249, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 249 was introduced by Senator Scofield and Dierks. It is found on page 647 of the Journal. (Read.) Again, Mr. President, the resolution is on page 647 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. I shutter to introduce this resolution knowing that it will probably consume us this morning and, yet, even though I do it with some good humor, I also do it because it is an issue that continues to emerge across the state. It is, if you will look at the handouts on your desk, even a couple of years ago, and I don't believe there is a date, but this is a 1987 column from the Rural Electric Nebraskan that raised this question again about what does outstate mean, and where is it, and I, for the life of me, don't know. And, in fact, I teased Senator Hannibal, you

may recall, a year or two ago and asked him where did I have to move to actually be instate, and he didn't seem to know. So...but the issue does keep surfacing and, in fact, I drafted this resolution a couple of years ago when this letter, this particular Rural Electric Nebraskan article generated a lot of mail, and there wasn't any consensus about what to call the rest of the state, and I think there is good reason for that. And it is kind of like being in a classroom where you have two big kids and a lot of little kids, and the teacher only knows the names of the two big kids, and you can imagine how well that would go over. So I think that probably it isn't appropriate to lump the rest of the state together using one term, that all of us who live outside of Lincoln and Omaha really should encourage people to know and appreciate our parts of the state. I am here to confess that one of the great parts about serving in this Legislature has been to even learn about places in my own district that I was less familiar with prior to serving. That may, in fact, be the case for you. As you know, when we get around on hearings and so forth, we learn a lot more about the state, and I think it is just healthier for us as a state if we pay more attention to the state, as a whole. But what really gave this some momentum was last Sunday in Tom Allan's column, there was, again, mention of this from a man named Mike Wendorff, who with his wife, Suzanne, publishes the Callaway Courier, and he talked about the "outstate Nebraska syndrome" that he said affects eastern Nebraskans. And he went on to say that there isn't a time that goes by when I go to the eastern part of the state that someone doesn't ask me if Callaway, that is in the middle of the Sandhills for those of you who don't know, is part of the state. The outstate Nebraska syndrome seems alive and well. They know North Platte, Kearney and Grand Island are out here somewhere, but aren't sure where. You have that in front of you, the whole letter, but I think there is a serious point to this, and that is, for instance, my niece and nephew live in Wyoming, and it chagrins me to know that how they are such loyal Wyomingites, but Wyoming really does have this sense of we are all from the Wyoming and we are all in this together and there is a lot of state pride. And we don't seem to have that in Nebraska, and it may be because we have chosen to divide ourselves by the kind of language we live. And as I said, it is also a very imprecise term because when you talk about outstate, I don't know if you mean outside the borders of Nebraska, or if the line begins somewhere west of Waverly, or exactly where it is. Now Senator Lynch the other day raised the point about, okay, so what is it you guys want to be called. He

was sensitive enough to know that, we had a conversation about that, and having lived in Omaha, I knew what he was talking about. He said, well, it is true that even in Omaha, people in Omaha, if you live in west Omaha, you say you live in west Omaha, and if you live in south Omaha, you are proud of living in south Omaha, and it is also true in Lincoln, as you know. In fact, that is why I mentioned Benson in this resolution, that is why I mentioned Havelock, to make a point that this is a two-way street. We have an obligation, those of us who live in other parts of the state, to know as much as we can, I think, about this state. So I would suggest that there isn't any appropriate term that you can use to lump all the rest of the state together outside of Lincoln and Omaha, that we should try whenever possible to be more precise in referring to a particular area. Sometimes when, in fact, legislation applies to every place but Lincoln and Omaha, that is acceptable, probably, to talk about that, but the rest of the time I think that we probably ought to be a little bit more precise about what we talk about so we appreciate the variety and the diversity of the state. I think every town has a story. In fact, I have a neighbor who worked in an abstracting office for a long time who tells me every quarter section has a story in this state. While obviously, none of us are ever going to master that, I still find myself coming across communities in Nebraska that I didn't know about. That is probably true of all of us and always will be, but I think it is important that we encourage people to know the state better, it is important that we do what we can to encourage state unity, and to act as if we are all part of one state, rather than dividing ourselves and causing confusion by the use of such imprecise terms. I think it is too easy for people who have governmental responsibilities to talk about Lincoln, Omaha, and everybody else, which may, in fact, lead to bad policy. If you look at the diversity of this state, and the regions, and the rivers, and the landmarks, and the communities, there is perhaps within the boundaries of Nebraska enough diversity that we have more diversity than a lot of individual states around the country. So I think the message here is that we want to be part of this state. We want to be included as part of the state. We all want to be good loyal Nebraskans, and since there is a renewed interest in geography in this nation, as well, it seems to me that it would be appropriate for all of us in Nebraska to begin by making sure that we know our own geography in Nebraska, the regions, the landmarks, the rivers, where our state parks are, where the Sandhills are, where they are not, and so on. Now you may want to take issue with the punishment

that I proposed, and I suggest that any Nebraska citizen would be empowered to fine someone using these terms \$50 to donate to his or her favorite charity. A friend of mine has suggested that repeat offenders, perhaps, should be locked in a small room with only a black and white television and be forced to watch the Legislature debating rules to avoid debating abortion. There seems to be two points of view on that; one being that that is cruel and unusual punishment, but another friend of mine told me, well, if you adopt the right frame of mind before you start watching that, it is actually high comedy. So I will not propose that we add that harsh a punishment to this, but I think it is important. It is an opportunity for all of us to know our state better. It is an opportunity for all of us to brag about our section. I represent a district that is actually quite diverse. I have part of the Sandhills. I have the Pine Ridge. I have a railroading town of Alliance. My district, itself, is very diverse. I am proud of that district, and I suspect each of you are proud of your districts and would like to take an opportunity to educate the rest of us about the special points of your district. But I think we will be a stronger state in Nebraska if we are careful about how we refer to the state, and if we eliminate in particular the term "outstate" forever from the language of Cornhusker. I ask you to adopt the resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. For purposes of discussion, the Chair recognizes Senator Korshoj, followed by Senators Dierks, and Wesely.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Mr. Speaker, and members, I think I am for this resolution, of course. Early on when I got elected to the Legislature, I met with the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, and I kept referring to outstate Nebraska, and they kept correcting me, that they wanted to be called greater Nebraska. So I pretty much stayed on that line of greater Nebraska. Didn't really know the meaning of greater Nebraska, but if that is what they wanted to be called, that was fine. I corrected Arlene Nelson a couple of times in a news conference in Omaha when she kept saying outstate Nebraska, and I would say, no, greater Nebraska. But there is a lot of terms you don't always understand the meaning of. The seat that I took was Senator Jim Goll's and he told me the 16th Legislative District was a swing district. I said what is a swing district? And I don't mean swinger, I say swing. He said, well, it is both for urban and rural, and I can't understand how it could be both. In fact, I had been in

here a while, why, I finally got the geography that we are classified as agriculture because somebody said to me I was the senator that was the hayseed, and I figured we were raising hay. So I said, then we are rural, and they said, no, it is you we are talking about, not your district. So now I don't know what a hayseed is. But, anyway, I think there will always be a lot of these terms and a lot of these phrases around, and only the person that uses them knows exactly what they are. The fine probably isn't stiff enough. I would be much in favor of raising the fine a little bit, and I have been satisfied, referred to it as greater Nebraska. I was up to Chadron last summer in this great, great country but I don't know if it is greater than what. We are back to whoever wants to explain what it means. So I don't know how far we are going to go with this resolution. I am going to support it. I don't know how you are going to enforce the collection of the \$50. Maybe garnishee the wages of whoever uses those terms, and probably they don't have a job, so you couldn't garnishee any wages. So you have to work that out yourself, and I just wanted to let you know that I am a rural senator in that swing district of mine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, I, too, support the resolution. I guess you have seen my name on it. And I have had difficulty with the terms "greater" and "lesser", too, and I always get the feeling that when someone is termed to be from lesser, whatever, it gives the feeling of lack of importance or something, and maybe the fact that you could be trod upon. And I think I have a lot of compassion for those people who live in the Lesser Antilles, for instance, some of the smaller islands in a group of the Caribbean Sea, and the Greater Antilles, of course, include islands like Cuba, or Puerto Rico, and it appears to me that that lesser sort of connotes a term of less importance, and maybe one that would get on its back and say, okay, if you want to plant a nuclear waste site in my district, why, we will just let you do that, or...I have problems with that. I, personally, whenever people ask me where I am from, I always say I am from God's country but I would hate to suggest that everybody here use that terminology because that might bring difficulty in your own home district. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, member. I hope this doesn't go on like the styrofoam cup debate, but in some ways, it is totally appropriate for the whole issue to have at least a few minutes of airing, because terminology, I found, is an important language, is a means by which we communicate with one another, and this Legislature is a central point for the whole state to talk about different matters, and this has been a nagging problem, as Senator Scofield knows. All of us from Lincoln and Omaha have had a problem from time to time trying to refer to those areas of the state not including Lincoln and Omaha, and we have tried to be sensitive to the concerns of senators like Senator Scofield, Senator Dierks. Certainly outstate Nebraska has earned disfavor. The problem is greater Nebraska is certainly not much appreciated by those of us who aren't in greater Nebraska, which means we are in lesser Nebraska, and that really doesn't appeal to us a whole lot. But we, at different times, do need to make reference to that area of the state. Senator Korshoj talked about rural Nebraska. I think perhaps that term, I'd just be curious, I guess, Senator Scofield, does the term "rural Nebraska" have any particular meaning or "urban Nebraska", is that one way to make some distinction? And the problem you get into there is on urban Nebraska is what is urban? Is Grand Island urban? Is Norfolk urban? Certainly Lincoln and Omaha would be but I don't think that is a very precise terminology either. You get into this in all kinds of areas. In western Nebraska, I recall when I first came down here, I thought Grand Island was western Nebraska, and I certainly have learned that is not western Nebraska. I am not sure that even North Platte is thought of as western Nebraska. I got into it on older, older people, older Nebraskans, and, you know, what is somebody is older. Well, that is any age you are, older is ten years older than that. That is usually about how people determine who is older and who isn't, and so you just have a moving target constantly with terminology, and spending time in the health and human services area, we did delete numerous references dealing with the mentally ill, the mentally retarded, because the terminology that we had used in the past was offensive and inappropriate, and how we label something makes a difference, and so I am not saying that the resolution is inappropriate. It is very appropriate. The topic of discussion is worthwhile. I am a little worried about the \$50 fine, if you want to know the truth, and if you read that, it says anybody anywhere, and so if anybody in this floor utters those forbidden terms, then we could have a million people

requesting fifty bucks, and I don't have that cash on hand. So I'd urge some caution in adopting the resolution, but not in addressing the issue.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before proceeding with further discussion on the resolution, Senator Scofield has some guests under the north balcony from Chadron, Nebraska. We have some graduate level educational administration class members from Chadron State College with their leader. Would you gentlemen please stand and be recognized. My apologies, would you ladies and gentlemen please stand. Also Senator Warner would like to recognize Dr. Bruce Gfeller of the Lincoln Family Practice Program who is serving as doctor of the day today on behalf of the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians. Please welcome Dr. Gfeller of Lincoln. Doctor. Thank you. Proceeding with the discussion on LR 249, the Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich, followed by Senators WeiHING and Coordsen.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Well, Mr. President, and members of the body, I have got a solution for Senator Korshoj and Senator Wesely's enforcement problem here, and it also would gather up, I am sure, a lot of additional support for this resolution, and that is to amend it. Right on the tail end there where the fines go to, we would just amend that, drop the words there, and insert to the "Barrett for Congress Committee", and then the Barrett for Congress Committee would take care of the enforcement of this and we could go around just violating the heck out of this resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, I think. Senator WeiHING, Senator Coordsen on deck.

SENATOR WEIHING: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, I don't know why we just can't use Nebraska. It is all Nebraska. When I came to the Legislature, I found that the most common question that came to me in the first day that I was here is what issue, what is your issue? What issue did you come down to do? And my reply was, to bring the Panhandle into Nebraska. This always brought a rather surprised look as to what do you mean, bring the Panhandle into Nebraska. Well, there is a real true meaning to that. We shouldn't be dividing our state with those kinds of people there. We are all one state. We have our strengths in all of these areas, and when we say outstate, it is sort of like outback. Greater Nebraska, and as one of my staff mentioned this morning, that is a great area. It is a large

area. There is no definition. I really don't see that we need these terms, and if we wish to talk about and be definitive, let us use the term Scottsbluff, Kimball, Sidney, North Platte, Benkelman, Holdrege, Ewing, and when you say Ewing, they say, where is that? They can be told. It would be desirable, and certainly I know it would be desirable that we come to know our state with the names, and the people, and the commerce, and the institutions which surround them. Everyone of our communities have its strength. When you go to Chadron, and we just had the announcement with regards to the Chadron State College visitors here, you have a perception. And when you go to Gering, that is the county seat of Scotts Bluff County. How many people realize that? They always think of Scottsbluff, the City of Scottsbluff as probably being the county seat. It is not. And what are the strengths of these various communities. What is the strength of Auburn? What is the strength of Grand Island? Let us use them and use them proudly because everyone of these communities have strengths. If you do not believe so, go there and you will find it in the small population centers of the Panhandle just as well as you will, and there will be just as much pride in Ericson, Nebraska for Ericson as there is in Omaha or Lincoln.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WEIHING: I thank you. Those are my comments. I don't think we need greater, lesser, outstate, instate. It is Nebraska.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. The member from Hebron, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body. Thank you, Senator Scofield, for bringing us something this morning with a little bit of levity, I think, to it compared to some of the ways we have started weeks in the past. Couldn't resist jumping into this conversation because I represent the third most rural district in the State of Nebraska by U.S. Census Bureau definition, and it is our opinion that greater Nebraska, contrary to my good friend from Chadron's wishes, is the proper terminology. I feel that somehow those that happen to be confined in our more urban areas are, in fact, from lesser Nebraska, but there is one thing, Senator Scofield, about the amendment. Would you consider adding an amendment to this resolution that would call for community service rather than \$50 because I don't know anybody in my district that has

\$50. Yes, you may.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: That is perfectly reasonable, Senator Coordsen, although I would call to your attention that the only people subject to this fine are those of us who are most responsible for setting a good example, in other words, members of the Legislature, constitutional officers, state employees, and any other persons who represent the people of Nebraska in an official capacity. So it is not really designed to get the ordinary citizen. It is designed with the notion that those of us who represent the state have the obligation to know the state and to refer to all of the state as precisely as possible.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Oh, thank you. I didn't realize the everlasting significance of it and it was only me that was going to pay the \$50. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before proceeding with the discussion, the Chair is pleased to recognize members from the Nebraska LEAD program. In the south balcony, we have 30 Nebraska LEAD fellows from across the entire State of Nebraska, a two-year leadership development program for Nebraska agriculturists. This happens to be LEAD group nine, I believe. Would you ladies and gentlemen please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you. We are very pleased to have you with us this morning. Further discussion, the member from the 27th District, Senator Schimek, please.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. President, and members of the body, I am going to resist temptation and call the question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Shall debate close? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion prevails. Senator Scofield, would you care to make a closing statement.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. This is an issue that is very important, frankly, to people who live outside of Lincoln and Omaha, and we have had a good time with it this morning, and I won't take very long. One of the reasons I brought this was that, again, it keeps surfacing. In fact, the

use of the term outstate, in particular, seems to be spreading like the plague and I would like to nip it in the bud before it goes any further. I don't know whoever started this practice but I think it is one that needs to be stopped before this contamination spreads any further. The discussion about greater, if you read the Selzer column, Bob Selzer column here, greater according to the American Heritage Dictionary is an adjective and it means designating a city and its populous suburbs. So it is really not a satisfactory answer and I really think people would get...we would let people off too easily if we let them lump every place outside of Lincoln and Omaha together with one term, and I don't think that is in the best interest of any part of the state. Senator Coordsen asked, does the term rural Nebraska versus urban Nebraska have any particular significance? I happen to live in a district that is 48 urban, 52 percent rural, according to the statistics. Many of us have that kind of division and so there is a lot of areas outside the state that have urban characteristics. So I think the only real solution is to either regard ourselves all as Nebraskans, and when appropriate, to refer to a particular region or a particular community, and to be more careful, I believe it was Senator Wesely who made the point about how you use language is very important. It is very important in terms of the perceptions of the state, and since this resolution really only puts obligations on people who are in official capacities, and I think we do have an obligation to know the state better than the average citizen, I have...Senator Wesely asked me if I was going to withdraw this resolution. I can't withdraw this resolution. My constituents would kill me. I have got one up there from Hay Springs I see right now looking down upon me. People at Hay Springs would be very upset if we didn't correct this plague before it spreads any further. I would suspect that the enforcement of this wouldn't be unduly rigorous but I rejected a notion of amending it because, as Coordsen suggested, and Coordsen suggested community service. If Senator Wesely were to be fined to do community service in my district, he would be way better off to pay the \$50. It would cost him more than that to get there. So, and this may be viewed as a stunt by some but I can assure that outside the boundaries of Lincoln and Omaha, this is no stunt. This is a very important issue. It is important to the people that live outside the major metropolitan areas of this state, and I think it is safe to say that we all want to be a part of this state. I love this whole state. I have lived in Omaha. I have lived in Lincoln. I now live outside of Chadron and I think we will

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LB 1050
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be a stronger state if we all join together and become a part of a whole state, and when we need to refer to some specific area of the state, let's not lump everybody together. Let's try to be as precise as we can. There will be times when it is necessary to refer to those areas outside of Lincoln and Omaha. I think you can say it that way. Perhaps there will be more debate on this issue. Perhaps we will continue to seek more precise terminology. That is fine. But for now, I think we should ban the use of outstate, and greater, and lesser Nebraska. Thank you very much. I'd ask you to adopt the amendment and not be too difficult on Senator Wesely. We will correct his ways quickly. Perhaps we will give him a free pass the first couple of times he says it but I hope we get him past that. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You have heard the closing and the question is the adoption of LR 249. Those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 14 ayes, 4 nays on adoption of the resolution, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LR 249 is adopted. Anything for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Not at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Proceeding then to LB 1050 on General File.

SENATOR HANNIBAL PRESIDING

CLERK: Mr. President, 1050 was a bill that was introduced by Senator John Weihing, Senator Elmer, Senator Baack and Senator Bernard-Stevens. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9 of this year, Mr. President, referred to Education Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Weihing, on the introduction.

SENATOR WEIHING: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the Legislature. LB 1050 would remove the population clause in the technical community college property tax levy statutes and raise the vote necessary to exceed the base limit, levy limit from two-thirds to 75 percent of an area board of governors. At this

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LB 269, 990, 1029, 1084
LR 249

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. We have with us this morning Reverend Harland Johnson for our invocation. Would you please rise.

REVEREND JOHNSON: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Harland Johnson, for your appropriate message. We appreciate it. Roll call, please. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

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

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Do you have any corrections to the Journal?

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, Government Committee, whose Chair is Senator Baack, reports LB 1084 to General File; LB 990, indefinitely postponed; and LB 1029, indefinitely postponed, those signed by Senator Baack. (See page 667 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, I have four appointment letters from the Governor. Those will be referred to Reference for referral to the appropriate Standing Committee. That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 249. We'll move on to General File. LB 269, Senator Wehrbein's bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, 269 was a bill introduced by Senator Wehrbein. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9 of last year, Mr. President. At that time, it was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, for the committee amendments.

April 9, 1990

LB 1031
LR 249

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chizek.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, this motion is to override the Governor's veto and reaffirm the appropriation of 395,000 to Kearney State for the purposes of the Museum of Nebraska Art Projects, as found in Section 67, page 150. I filed the motion because of the project facts that I've learned. Kearney State and the state college system were authorized in 82-404 to commission and to administer a Museum of Nebraska Art. Since that authorization in 1979, over 4,000 pieces of art have been assembled, a curator hired, an advisory commission established, and until lately the collection was housed in Kearney State basement. In 1986, the former Kearney Post Office building was purchased to house the collection. The building is on the National Historic Trust list, but like many buildings, it is in need of repair. The estimated cost, 3.77 million. All but about 395,000 has been raised privately, including a 1 million challenge grant. This 395,000 will allow completion of repair for a real showcase for Nebraska art, and is well within purposes of Section 82-408, which allows state funds for the project. It seems to me, colleagues, a lot of work, private fund raising and donations have gone for a worthwhile purpose. About 30,000 Nebraskans visited the collection last year. It means as much to Kearney as Joslyn does to Omaha and I am carrying this resolution, in part, as appreciation for colleagues that I have talked to in support for the Joslyn matter. Senator Scofield and others will note I did not use geographical definitions in explaining motions and reasons trying to adhere strictly to LR 249 and to avoid losing \$50, Senator Scofield, but sometimes we need more than words to define that we are one state. We need concrete action and here is one of those Omaha senators who is standing here today offering you this opportunity. So I would hope that others who support LR 249 would join me in giving some meaning to the motion that underlines those words, and I would ask your support of the override.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion, Senator Rod Johnson. Thank you. Senator Moore, followed by Senator Kristensen and Senator Langford.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. President, if I could briefly give you a few reasons to vote against Senator Chizek's very statewide motion here. The first reason, as you remember, this particular request came in, well, much...very late, sometime in March, and