

February 14, 1989      LB 159  
                             LR 30

New resolution, Mr. President, offered by the Speaker, LR 30. (Read brief explanation of LR 30. See page 734 of the Legislative Journal.) That will be laid over.

And, Mr. President, received a report, the biennium report from the Nebraska Public Transportation System Programs from the Department of Roads. That will be on file in my office.

One announcement, Mr. President. The General Affairs Committee will meet in Executive Session underneath the north balcony at nine-thirty. General Affairs, north balcony, nine-thirty. That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Okay, we'll move on to General File, LB 159.

CLERK: Mr. President, 159 is a bill introduced by Senator Conway and others. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, referred to Judiciary, Mr. President. The bill was passed over, Mr. President, on January 31. I have a motion from the principal introducer at this time to bracket LB 159 until March 2, 1989, and that's offered by Senator Conway, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Conway, would you like to speak to us about that, please.

SENATOR CONWAY: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. President, and members, LB 159, as most of you are well aware, is the so-called tort reform bill that we passed last year that was ultimately vetoed then by the Governor and we have reintroduced that bill in the form by which it was passed last year back to the body. It went to the committee and was sent out...back out to the floor. There is some negotiation going on relative to some technicalities that many of us believe would make the bill better, more palatable for those who are going to be affected by it to the greatest extent. And those negotiations have not been finalized as yet and that's why I'm asking for the bracket for March 2nd, asking for those 10 working days for us to finish that negotiation so that when we bring it to the body that we will be in a better position to offer the best bill that we can to this group. So I would ask that the body support the bracket motion to March 2nd.

PRESIDENT: Are there any objections? Senator Ashford.

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LB 124, 149, 217, 241, 306, 341, 368  
382, 442, 460, 631, 637  
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Mr. President, your Committee on Government, Military and Veterans Affairs, whose Chair is Senator Baack, instructs me to report LB 637 as advanced to General File, LB 124 indefinitely postponed, LB 149 indefinitely postponed, LB 217 indefinitely postponed, LB 241 indefinitely postponed, LB 306 indefinitely postponed, LB 341 indefinitely postponed, LB 382 indefinitely postponed, LB 442 indefinitely postponed, LB 460 indefinitely postponed, LB 631 indefinitely postponed, all those signed by Senator Baack as Chair of the Government Committee.

Mr. President, I have a motion from Senator Lamb to withdraw LB 368. That will be laid over.

Mr. President, two reports, the first from the Department of Roads regarding the Highway Cash Fund; and second, Mr. President, the Biennium Report of the Nebraska Indian Commission. Both of those will be on file in my office. That is all that I have, Mr. President.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON PRESIDING

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will proceed to Item 5 on the agenda, legislative resolutions. The Chair recognizes Senator Barrett for LR 30.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Mr. Clerk, is there a Journal page?

CLERK: Yes sir, Mr. President. LR 30 offered by the Speaker found on page 734 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Mr. President and members, this resolution simply recognizes Vocational Education Week, which started on the 12th, on Monday of this week. The American Vocational Association and the Nebraska Vocational Association have established the third week in February as Vocational Education Week, and I would hope that the Legislature would join me in recognizing this week and would urge citizens of Nebraska to join in supporting and recognizing vocational education programs in Nebraska. I would move adoption of the resolution.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Is there further discussion on the resolution? If not, the question is the adoption of LR 30. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Has everyone voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

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                             LR 30

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 30.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Is there anything further, Mr. Clerk, before we go to General File?

CLERK: I have nothing further, Mr. President.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: The first item on General File this morning is LB 187.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 187 was a bill that was introduced by Senator Lynch, Labedz and Lindsay. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, Mr. President. At that time, it was referred to Health and Human Services. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee, Mr. President. (See page 497 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, on the committee amendments, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. LB 187, as mentioned, does deal with the question of medical indigent coverage now the responsibility of the counties. This would shift that responsibility to the State of Nebraska. Just to quickly summarize the committee amendments, or maybe I should even start back a little bit, a couple of years ago a study was done by the Health and Human Services Committee that resulted approximately two years ago in a study report from a task force dealing with this topic. Legislation was introduced two years ago, two different bills. Both pieces of legislation did not succeed. We are back with 187 from Senator Lynch and, again, the question before us is what role the state takes in providing for the indigent care of our citizens. The original bill did provide for the complete take-over of the program by the State of Nebraska. The State Department of Social Services would have the responsibility for administering that program. They did come to the committee in a neutral capacity raising questions on an administrative basis to the bill. The committee did respond to their concerns and I think meet their concerns in the committee amendments, so I would ask for their adoption. What they call for is, first, changing the scope of medical services that are provided. What their intent here is to provide for the

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433, 516, 556  
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SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Welcome to this, the one-third mark, the 30th day in the life of the first session of the ninety-first Legislature. Our Chaplain this morning, Harland Johnson. Please rise for the opening prayer.

HARLAND JOHNSON: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Harland. Roll call.

CLERK: There is a quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any corrections to the Journal?

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any announcements, reports, or messages?

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Enrollment and Review respectfully reports they have carefully examined and reviewed LB 187 and recommend that same be placed on Select File; LB 187A, LB 556, LB 421, LB 516, LB 214 and LB 214A, all on Select File, some having E & R amendments attached. (See pages 765-66 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, LR 30 is ready for your signature.

I have an Attorney General's Opinion addressed to Senator Lamb regarding LB 183. (See pages 766-68 of the Legislative Journal.)

I have amendments to be printed by Senator Haberman to LB 187; Senator Kristensen to LB 332 and, Mr. President, a motion from Senator Wesely to place LB 433 on General File notwithstanding the committee action. That will be laid over. And that is all that I have, Mr. President. (See pages 768-69 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and I do sign LR 30. (See page 769 of the Legislative Journal.)

Members will please return to their seats in anticipation of Final Reading. As a matter of interest, LB 198 will not be read