

March 27, 1990

LB 1055  
LR 239, 397-400

2,000 jobs that are connected with Ak-Sar-Ben, so all three, LB 1055, as amended by the committee, is definitely a very good, good bill and, hopefully many of the senators, enough senators here will agree and not only vote to advance or adopt A, B, and C, which will be the total of LB 1055. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I move that we recess until one-thirty, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Do you have anything for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: One item, Mr. President. Amendments from Senator McFarland to LR 239CA. That's all that I have. (See pages 1627-28 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: You've heard the motion to recess until one-thirty. All in favor say aye. Opposed no. Ayes have it, the motion carried, we are recessed.

RECESS

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

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

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Do you have anything for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. New resolutions. (Read brief summary of LR 397-400. See pages 1629-31 of the Legislative Journal.) That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: If I could have your attention a minute, Senator Labeledz has a group of students in the south balcony. There are 57 fourth and fifth graders from Holy Ghost School in Omaha accompanied by their teacher. Would you students and teacher please stand so we may recognize you. You're a nice looking group and we're happy to have you here today. You may be interested to know that the Legislature, in a moment or two, will be talking about bingo and what the state has to do with

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I'm pleased to bring you today this resolution that honors Butte, Nebraska, on its 100th anniversary. There will be a celebration there this summer, I'm not sure of the dates yet, but this village has been in existence for 100 years, and it's in the County of Boyd, northern most county of my district, neighbor of South Dakota. And I would just urge your support of this resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of the resolution. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 19 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 398.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. LR 399.

CLERK: Mr. President, 399, offered by Senators Dierks and Hartnett, is found on page 1630, congratulates the Village of Brunswick on its centennial celebration.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Again, I'm very pleased to bring you another resolution that honors another village in my district, the Village of Brunswick, formerly named Chicago, by the way, and has been in existence since 1890. It's in the northern part of Antelope County, really not too far from Plainview, in Pierce County. And I'm again pleased to tell you about their celebration which will be in June this year, and you're all, of course, welcome to come and attend. I know they're planning a big parade, and I plan on being there myself. So, I urge your signing on this resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I also rise to recognize the city or the Village of Brunswick, Nebraska, because that is where I started my teaching career, in 1952. There was three years of enjoyable and a very learning experience, and the great people in Brunswick, Nebraska. So I also plan to be at the celebration this summer at Brunswick in June. So, with that, I give these words for congratulations for

surviving for 100 years to Brunswick.

PRESIDENT: Well, thank you. Senator Dierks, would you like to finish?

SENATOR DIERKS: Only to ask that you all accept and sign on this resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Fine, thank you. The question is the adoption of the resolution. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 24 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 399.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. LR 400, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 400, offered by Senator Dierks congratulates the...or asks, I'm sorry, asks that the month of May, 1990, be declared as State Poppy Month.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. May, this year, will be proclaimed as National Poppy Month, and the Governor will be signing a declaration or proclamation, as to that effect for Nebraska, later today. So I'm really very pleased to be able to bring this resolution to you, because I have a special interest in the things that have happened with the war veterans of this nation. The Legion Post in Ewing, Nebraska, is named the Sanders Legion Post, and it's named after two of my uncles who were both killed in France in World War I, and on the same day, as a matter of fact, my mother's two older brothers. And my father was also a charter member of that Legion Post. So, I feel somewhat of a strong attachment to the whole Legion process and what they do and what they stand for. There was a young colonel from Canada who, one day in 1915, of April of 1915, was standing in one of those fields where they lined up these little white crosses and all of our veterans or all of our war dead had been buried there in rather hurried fashion. And he saw these poppies growing around there, and he penned a poem, called "In Flanders Fields", and I think it's appropriate that that poem be entered on the record here today. So, if you'll bear with me just a few seconds, I'll read that. It's called, "In Flanders Fields", by Colonel John McCrae. And it goes, In Flanders Fields the poppies blow

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LB 976  
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haste, not only makes for waste, but it makes for foolishness. You wind up doing the opposite of what is intended. I know what Senator Pirsch's intendment was and is, but thanks to help from the Governor's Office, we are going to have bill like no bill we have ever had before. This will be a first, even for the Nebraska Legislature. I don't think even Congress has achieved what we are achieving here this afternoon. So, Senator Pirsch, this is one time I am not just saying orally that...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...I am going to support the amendment, I am going to vote yes. And if I could vote yes more than once, I would vote enough times myself to make sure this amendment is added. I sure would hate to be in a position of having argued strongly for this amendment, then shamefacedly having to vote against it or pull it, so I sure hope she doesn't become like a dentist and pull it. (Laughter) Mr. Chairman, we are at that time in the session when I think it is necessary to add a little levity because this is such a serious matter that we are dealing with, and with the time being short that I have left at this point, I will stop for now.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 398, LR 399, and LR 400. Senator Landis, please. Senator Pirsch, would you like to close on this part of the amendment, please?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Speaker, I will try and answer some of the questions that have been going. This, of course, being dealing with the same thing, we will have more of the same subject on the other three parts of the amendment, but I do want to point out in answer to Senator Hall, we are not striking the course. That is still in the bill, if you would look. It is a Class IV misdemeanor because we are saying this is a serious crime. This is a misdemeanor crime, and it should be considered more serious than an infraction. The course will still be mandated and this isn't going to clog the courts. Less than 1 percent will go to court, and if you are caught, you are caught. It is kind of like the alcohol, but remember in the case of marijuana, if you are caught, you have \$100 fine, infraction. If you hand your joint to a friend, you committed a felony. That is far too much disparity in the severity of using marijuana and that has been the problem all