

March 3, 1989

LB 78, 129A, 131, 183, 183A, 245, 250
250A, 340, 346A, 397, 408, 443, 447A
499, 509, 533, 538, 576
LR 43

advance the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion fails. Messages on the President's desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 183 to Select File; LB 183A to Select File; LB 250, Select File; LB 250A, LB 340, all to Select File, all signed by Senator Lindsay as Chair of the E & R Committee. (See page 975 of the Legislative Journal.)

Transportation Committee reports LB 533 to General File and LB 245 indefinitely postponed. Those are signed by Senator Lamb. Transportation also reports LB 509 to General File; LB 78, General File with amendments; LB 131, General File with amendments; LB 538 indefinitely postponed and LB 576 indefinitely postponed, and also signed by Senator Lamb. (See pages 975-80 of the Legislative Journal.)

Senator Moore has amendments to be printed to LB 499. (See pages 980-82 of the Legislative Journal.)

Enrollment and Review reports LB 408 correctly engrossed and LB 443 correctly engrossed. Those are signed by Senator Lindsay. (See page 982 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, an announcement from Senator Smith that the General Affairs Committee will not meet in Exec Session at one o'clock. General Affairs will not have their regularly scheduled Exec Session.

Mr. President, a new resolution offered by Senator Coordsen and other members. (Briefly described LR 43 as found on pages 982-83 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, new A bills. (Read titles for the first time to LB 346A, LB 129A, LB 447A. See page 983 of the Legislative Journal.) That's all that I have, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I move we adjourn and, providing we can get here, I...we adjourn until Monday morning, March 6th.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You have heard the motion to

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. We have with us today as our Chaplain of the day, Pastor Richard Johnson of the Temple Baptist Church in Lincoln. Would you please rise for the invocation.

PASTOR JOHNSON: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Pastor Johnson for your invocation this morning. We appreciate it. Roll call, please.

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

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

ASSISTANT CLERK: No corrections.

PRESIDENT: Very good. Any messages, reports or announcements?

ASSISTANT CLERK: No messages, reports or announcements, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Good. Move on to the resolution, LR 43.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, LR 43 was introduced by Senators Coordsen, Wesely, Hartnett, Baack, Hall and Warner, and it provides that the Legislature gratefully recognizes the efforts of Speaker Barrett, the staff of the New Horizons project, the staff of the Nebraska Educational Television Network and participating citizens for their efforts on the televised legislative hearing on March 1, 1989.

PRESIDENT: Senator Coordsen, please.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body, we don't do this, I think, very often and probably not often enough. All of us in the body are aware of the New Horizons process and the meetings and hearings and those things that have been going on for the last several years and with the result of that. But Senator Hartnett and I, last week, after the televised property tax hearing, had a conversation and were discussing how well that effort had been viewed across the State

of Nebraska and how much really extra effort had went into putting this process on. The resolution is signed by most of the members of the New Horizons process, all of those that were present Friday afternoon when we put this resolution together, and I'm sure would be supported unanimously by all of those present. But we thought that it was perhaps time for the Legislature to give a little recognition to those that go the extra mile on behalf of the State of Nebraska, and for that matter you'll find the resolution on page 982 and I don't think that I need to read it this morning. But we felt that it was time that we perhaps gave a little bit of extra recognition for those that do their job, yes, but they do a little bit more than their job. They provide, I think, a new look into the future for all of us because of their efforts, so that's the reason behind the resolution and I would urge the unanimous adoption of this at this time. I think Senator Hartnett may have something that he wants to add.

PRESIDENT: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President and members, I would rise to enthusiastically support this resolution and to commend Senator Coordsen for thinking to make this kind of gesture and I want to just relate a couple of reactions that I've had recently from my own district on these activities and I think, although I'm sure this is appreciated all over the state, this has particularly been appreciated by those folks who live three, four, 500 hundred miles away from the Capital City and we've had very positive responses from these two experimental runs and, in fact, we may now be on the spot because just this morning I had a woman visit with me just before I came into the Chamber from Alliance who was very enthusiastic about in particular the property tax program and was hoping that we would do more of those very soon and just last week I had a couple of people call and say that they appreciated the hearing that was held in Scottsbluff and they had a couple of other little bills that they were interested in and wondered if we might also do that. I did, at the time, express the opinion that this is still very much in the experimental stage and I wasn't exactly sure what each of these was costing us, but that I was most interested in seeing what we might be able to do in the long range, so I think we've definitely started something here and Senator Barrett and all the ETV people and so on have really brought something that people in the western part of the state have wanted for a long time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett, please, followed by Senator Barrett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I think that Senator Coordsen I think gave a good background of how this idea started, but I think one thing I want to do is that I think I want to recognize the fine leadership that our Speaker has provided because I think the New Horizons is basically his idea and I think he is the power or the force behind it. I think the work that Rod Armstrong did in putting together the booklet on property tax, kind of the history and so forth, for me it was a very learning experience to read through that, so I think I want to recognize the ETV people, Hubert Brown and the other people that worked on that project. I think they simply did an excellent job, but I think we also need to recognize the leadership of Speaker Barrett in this, this whole New Horizons project because I think it's putting us as a Legislature on the cutting edge, I guess, moving forward with some new innovative ideas rather than copying things from other states. I think in this area we're in the leadership and it is because of Speaker Barrett. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Barrett, please, followed by Senator Hall.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you Mr. President and members, I was not aware of this. I had not read this resolution until it was offered by Senator Coordsen and I guess I would have to say, Senator Coordsen, that I am in total sympathy with it. Actually, actually, ladies and gentlemen, I think we are on the...right on the edge of the use of this kind of technology which may very well change the way the Legislature responds, acts and reacts. This is one of the most exciting uses of interactive video that I can think of. I think the Educational Television Network people did an outstanding job of arranging and preparing this program. The use of the graphics and the background material was exceptional. Our Legislative Research Division also did some exciting and exceptional work, most of it done under great pressures with reference to time. A lot of good people were involved in it. We have had, as Senator Scofield said, some exciting feedback from the west end of the state. This was one of the most positive things that has come out of that particular program. The west end of the state was reconnected through the use of this kind of technology. With

reference to whether or not we'll see more of it, we're right now researching, trying to determine where we do go from this point forward. It's my hope that we can do more of it next year. I suppose the bottom line is whether or not the Appropriations Committee and, ultimately, this Legislature would agree. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator WeiHING, please.

SENATOR WEIHING: I rise, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I rise to commend Senator Coordsen and others who put this resolution in. I have had the fortunate experience of spending many years with Educational Television and come to know of its power. This which has happened, if it continues and continues to grow, can bring the Legislature into a new light in the public's eye. The impact of being seen and the impact of talking and being able to talk with the legislators directly as it happened, as was done on that, has a much greater impact than most people ever realize. Even though I had not been on television for a number of years, when I was campaigning for the Legislature there were those who came to the door and were suddenly surprised and this would be in Scottsbluff, Gering and Mitchell, and seeing a person that they had used to see on television whom when they were watching the Backyard Farmer program. I simply use that as an illustration that this brings the Legislature directly to the people and we have a dialogue and they respect it and it can bring about a relationship in which there is a much higher degree of respect for the activities and thoughts of this body. I commend Speaker Barrett for having undertaken the New Horizons, this New Horizons project which can truly be leading toward new horizons. I thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Coordsen, would you like to close on your resolution? The question is the adoption of the resolution. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The resolution passes. Carl Kamprath, will you raise your hand, please? Please direct your attention to the back of the Chamber. Our Sergeant at Arms has a birthday today. Would you wish him well for his birthday. I guess it was yesterday, but we'll wish you well for yesterday too, Carl.

March 7, 1939

LB 775
LR 32, 42, 43

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 32 and LR 43. Move on to resolution LR 42.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 42 offered by Senator Rod Johnson, found on page 971 of the Journal. (Read brief description of LR 42.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of this distinguished body, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I take this time to sponsor this resolution on behalf of Nebraska Wesleyan University's men's basketball team. I think the resolution is fairly self-explanatory. The Nebraska Wesleyan team has made three appearances in the NCAA Division III Final Four in the past five years. Unfortunately, on Sunday they were beaten out of the opportunity to make a fourth appearance in California but, in any case, I wanted to take this opportunity, after we honored the Creighton basketball team, to honor another distinguished champion of Nebraska, the Nebraska Wesleyan basketball program for the fine job that they have done through the years. Having been a short power forward for the Nebraska Wesleyan team back in the late seventies, and slow, when it was nice to win four or five ball games, it's great to see the program turn around, since I played, and become a champion. And I guess at this particular time I would like to honor them and to congratulate Coach Schmutte and his players on a fine season and I think a legacy that will carry on in future years at the institution. Being a former alumni of that distinguished program, I think it's my honor to bring this resolution and honor the program and the institution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the resolution. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the Rod Johnson resolution. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 42.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. We will move on to General File, LB 775. Senator Lindsay, are you prepared to