

March 6, 1989

LB 87, 318, 340, 362, 362A, 390, 440
489, 541, 545A, 563, 587, 605, 661
687, 728, 793, 809
LR 16, 44, 45

SPEAKER BARRETT: With your permission, perhaps the Clerk could read some items in before we take a vote, Senator Goodrich? Thank you.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Business and Labor, whose Chairperson is Senator Coordsen, reports LB 541 to General File with amendments; LB 605, indefinitely postponed. Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 318 as correctly Engrossed; LB 362, LB 362A, LB 440, LB 489. (See pages 993-97 of the Legislative Journal.)

New resolutions. (Read brief descriptions of LR 44 and LR 45 for first time. See pages 997-98 of the Legislative Journal.)

I have a notice of committee hearing from the Business and Labor Committee on gubernatorial appointments. Your Committee on Revenue, whose Chairperson is Senator Hall, reports LB 793 to General File; LB 390, indefinitely postponed; LB 563, indefinitely postponed; LB 661, indefinitely postponed; LB 687, indefinitely postponed; LB 728 and LR 16CA, indefinitely postponed. (See page 998 of the Legislative Journal.)

I have amendments to LB 587 from Senator Schmit to be printed; and from Senator Pirsch to LB 87. New A bill, LB 545A, from Senator Baack. (Read by title for the first time. See page 999 of the Legislative Journal.)

Amendments to be printed to LB 340 from Senator Chambers. Unanimous consent request from Senator Pirsch to add her name as a co-sponsor of LB 809, and an announcement from Senator Rod Johnson that the Agriculture Committee will meet in a brief Executive Session under the north balcony, immediately following adjournment today. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (See page 1000 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You've heard the motion to adjourn offered by Senator Goodrich. Those in favor say aye. Opposed no. Ayes have it, motion carried. We are adjourned until tomorrow morning.

Proofed by:

Marilyn Zank
Marilyn Zank

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LB 54
LR 42, 44

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. We have with us this morning, as our chaplain of the day, Reverend James Cooke of the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Lincoln. Would you please rise for the invocation.

REVEREND COOKE: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Reverend Cooke. Roll call, please.

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

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any corrections to the Journal this morning?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Do you have any messages, reports or announcement?

CLERK: Two items. Senator Weihing would like to announce that LB 54 has been selected as his priority bill. And, Mr. President, LR 42 is ready for your signature. That is all that I have.

PRESIDENT: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 42. May I introduce some guests, please, in the north balcony this morning. Senator Crosby has 46 students in grades 9 through 12 at the College View Academy in Lincoln and their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us this morning. Moving on to the resolution, LR 44.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 44 is offered by Senator Kristensen. It's found on page 997 in the Journal. It asks the members of the Legislature to extend their congratulations to the Lawrence High School basketball team for winning the Class D-2 state basketball title.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to offer this resolution and hearty congratulations to the Lawrence Lady Panthers who finished their season 22 and 2 and are the

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LR 44, 45, 46

reigning Class D-2 championship basketball team, completed last week. And I would offer this to the body with my wholehearted congratulations to their school and their coaches, and I'd ask for its passage.

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

CLERK: 22 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 44.

PRESIDENT: LR 44 is adopted. LR 45.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 45, offered by Senator Korshoj, found on page 997 of the Journal. It asks the membership to congratulate the Blair High School girls basketball team for having won the Class B state basketball championship.

PRESIDENT: Senator Korshoj, please.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Mr. President and members, I'm also back here with a basketball resolution. It's the Blair High Bears girls team who won the Class B championship with a 24 and 1 record. It's the very first time they have won the state championship. They have an extremely good team, or they wouldn't have won of course, and I want to pay them tribute by this resolution. That is really all I have to say. Thank you.

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

CLERK: 23 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 45.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. LR 46, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 46, offered by Senator Baack, found on page 1007 of the Journal. It asks the members to congratulate the Potter-Dix Lady Coyotes for their championship win in Class D-1.

PRESIDENT: Senator Baack, please.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes. Mr. President, members, this is a resolution honoring the girls team from Potter-Dix, which is the

members of the Nebraska Wheathearts, which is an organization over all the state, of course, and their names are...and would you ladies please stand, Nadine Free of McCook, Lorraine Haas of Hemingford, Nina Papik of Crete, Kim and Jane Elliot of Alliance, Jo Balsenberger of Bushnell. Would you ladies...would you please welcome these ladies to the Legislature. Thank you for your gift this morning and you ladies and gentlemen in the organization perhaps would like to thank them for it. Thank you for visiting us today. Move on to LR 50. But may I say that while the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 44, LR 45, LR 46, LR 47, LR 48, LR 49, and that's it. All right, we'll move on to LR 50, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 50 offered by Senators Hefner, Lowell Johnson, Warner, Moore, Langford and Beyer. It's found on page 1017 of the Journal. (Read brief description of LR 50.)

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, may we please have your attention so we can proceed. Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: LR 50 is a resolution to be sent to the Nebraska Congressional delegation and the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs. And you will find this on page 1017 if you want to read it. But what it does, it calls attention to budget cuts made in services offered by Veterans Administration Medical Centers. Budget cuts have been made in services offered by VA Medical Centers in the last few years. The cuts affect the services in two ways. The services offered by VA Medical Centers are being reduced and in some cases to the point that some centers may be closed and the number of veterans served is being reduced. Now Nebraska has three VA Medical Centers, Lincoln, Grand Island and Omaha, and all three have been affected by these cuts. These cuts have not reduced the medical needs of veterans, of course. If VA Centers are closed, veterans will be forced to seek medical care from other care facilities, many of which already are overburdened. In some cases, veterans have no insurance or may be ineligible for health insurance. The lack of insurance simply means that the cost of their care will be passed on to others in cases where they are unable to pay for their own health care costs. It is very unreasonable to expect anyone to pay for expensive health care without the aid of insurance or government assistance in the face of today's rising expensive health care costs. Prior to these budget cuts, veterans were assured their health needs