

March 7, 1989

LB 425, 510, 648, 775
LR 49

SENATOR BECK: Roll call vote.

SPEAKER BARRETT: A request for the house to go under call and a roll call vote on the advancement of the bill. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 16 ayes, 1 nay to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The house is under call. Please record your presence. Return to your seats, and those outside the Legislative Chamber, please return. Senator Hannibal, the house is under call. Senator Beyer, please; Senator Byars, please. Senator Beck, would you record your presence. Senator Warner, the house is under call. Apparently, we are still looking for Senator Warner. Senator Beck, what are your wishes? Would you care to wait or proceed?

SENATOR BECK: Let's go ahead.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. We are voting on the advancement of LB 775. Roll call vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 1010 of the Legislative Journal.) 25 ayes, 12 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 775.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The bill is advanced. The call is raised. Anything for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President. A new resolution, LR 49 by Senator Chizek. (Read brief explanation. See page 1011 of the Legislative Journal.) That will be laid over, Mr. President.

And, Mr. President, an announcement that the Urban Affairs Committee will hold an Executive Session in Room 1019 at one-thirty; Urban Affairs at one-thirty in Room 1019 for Executive Session.

And, Mr. President, your Committee on Health and Human Services, whose Chair is Senator Wesely, to whom was referred LB 510, instructs me to report the same back to the Legislature with the recommendation it be advanced to General File; LB 648, General File with amendments, and LB 425 indefinitely postponed, all signed by Senator Wesely as Chair. That is all that I have,

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their second time to the state, but I think it's the first time that the communities have won a major state tournament, champion. So I...I know Senator Conway, in fact, went and watched the game the other day in the semi-finals when they beat Osmond, which is another northeast Nebraska town, at the last minute on the last....So, do honor Emerson-Hubbard on their fine basketball season. Thank you.

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

CLERK: 23 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 47.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. LR 48, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 48, offered by Senator Langford, it's found on page 1008. It asks the membership to congratulate the Gibbon Lady Buffs basketball team for the Class C-1 girls state title.

PRESIDENT: Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. Chairman, colleagues, Gibbon is in Class 1, but they are the best girls basketball team in the state, they could beat anybody. (Laughter.) This is their second, this is their second...

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Listen to what the lady is saying.

SENATOR LANGFORD: ...second state championship and they deserve great congratulations, because they played beautifully. They skinned their opponent in the finals.

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

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 48.

PRESIDENT: LR 48 is adopted. LR 49, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 49, the first item I have is a request by Senator Abboud to add his name as co-introducer. Mr. President, LR 49, offered by Senators Chizek and Abboud,

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LB 609

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found on page 1011, congratulates the Millard South girls basketball team for winning the Class A state basketball championship.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chizek, please.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Senator Conway wanted to know how many games I took, 24 and 1, Senator. This resolution is honoring the Millard South girls basketball team who had an outstanding record and are the reigning girls championship basketball Class A team, and I urge your support of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: 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 49.

PRESIDENT: LR 49 is adopted. We'll move on to motion by Senator Elmer.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Elmer would move to withdraw LB 609. Senator Elmer offered his motion yesterday. It's found on page 1117 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Elmer, please.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. LB 609 was a bill that would have allowed NRD's to not publish a ballot with a write-in space in a primary election, if there were no other candidates, to save money and such as that. However, during the hearings with the Government Committee it was found that another bill contains the same provisions and is included in their study, and to go ahead and hear another bill of identical context, a week from tomorrow in the Government Committee, would be superfluous. There is no longer any need for the bill, so I'd ask your unanimous consent to withdraw LB 609.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Baack, please.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Mr. President, members. I would just urge you to let him withdraw this bill because the Government Committee is in the process, right now, of doing an election law study, and this is part of our study. And we also do have

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