

April 20, 1989

LB 47, 66, 99, 135, 206, 247, 247A
324, 372, 381, 392, 395, 401, 482
506, 546, 548, 582, 582A, 608, 611
637, 777, 790
LR 81, 82

advancement of LB 247.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 247 is advanced. Anything for the record? The call is raised. Senator Withem, would you like to handle the A bill at this point? (LB 247A)

CLERK: Senator, I have no amendments to the bill.

SENATOR WITHEM: Move the advancement of the A bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any discussion? If not, those in favor of the advancement of the A bill say aye. Opposed no. Carried. For the record.

CLERK: Mr. President, thank you. Communication from the Governor to the Clerk. (Read communications regarding LB 135, LB 206, LB 324, LB 381, LB 392, LB 482, LB 395, LB 47, LB 66, LB 372, LB 401, LB 506, LB 546, LB 548, LB 582, LB 582A, LB 608, LB 637, LB 777, LB 790, and LB 99 as found on pages 1809-10 of the Legislative Journal.)

Study resolution, Mr. President, by Senator Goodrich and some other members regarding a review of state institutions where there is a permanent residence population. That will be referred to Reference Committee. (LR 81.) LR 82 is a resolution by Senators Pirsch and Lindsay asking the Legislature to applaud the efforts of 120 students in the...for their academic achievement. That will be laid over. (See pages 1810-12 of the Journal.)

Mr. President, Government Committee gives notice of confirmation hearing for May 4. That is offered by Senator Baack as Chair. That is all that I have, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Proceeding then to the next bill on Select File, LB 611.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first item on LB 611 are Enrollment and Review amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I move that the E & R amendments to LB 611 be adopted.

April 24, 1989

LB 809
LR 79, 82

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. We have with us this morning as our chaplain of the day Reverend William Thornton of the Second Presbyterian Church in Lincoln. Would you please rise for the invocation.

REVEREND THORNTON: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Reverend Thornton, we appreciate that. Roll call, please.

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

PRESIDENT: Do you have any corrections to the Journal today?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

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

CLERK: Mr. President, amendments to be printed to LB 809 by Senator Byars. LR 79 is now ready for your signature, Mr. President. That's all that I have. (See pages 1857-58 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you. We ready to move on to the resolutions, number 82.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 82, offered by Senators Pirsch and Lindsay, is found on page 1811 of the Journal. It asks the Legislature to commend and applaud the efforts of 120 students who participated in the Academic Decathlon.

PRESIDENT: Senator Pirsch, please.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, indeed, we do want to remember those 120 students from 20 schools who have put in a lot of effort and work in the competition called the Academic Decathlon. The idea for the Academic Decathlon came from Dr. Robert Peterson, Superintendent of the Orange County Schools in California. He wanted to develop a mechanism to motivate students at all grade levels to strive for academic excellence. In 1968 the first Academic Decathlon was held in Orange County. And in '79 the competition involved the entire State of California. In 1982 the competition became a national

event, and 45 states currently send teams to the national finals. This year they will be in Providence, Rhode Island, and the winner of the regional competition, Central High School of Omaha, will go to Rhode Island. We've talked a lot about educational excellence in this body, and also in creating an experience for young people. The Academic Decathlon is a competition involving a team of six full-time students from the eleventh and/or twelfth grades of a high school. Each team must include an A grade level student, two B grade level students, and two C or below grade level students. Every member of every team will take an objective test in the areas of economics, fine arts, language and literature, mathematics and science, also social science. In addition, each student must give both a planned and an impromptu speech, write an essay and be involved in an interview. Finally, each team is involved in a super quiz on a selected topic. The super quiz is patterned much after the old General Electric College Bowl and is truly an exciting event. And I would have hoped that some of you could have taken that in at the University of Nebraska at Omaha where the state contest was held. It truly is amazing and marvelous to watch these young people who have such a wealth of knowledge. The State of Nebraska has been involved in the Academic Decathlon for six years. During the first three years, the only high schools involved were from the Omaha Public School system. And during the third year of operation a planning committee was formed to broaden the scope of the decathlon beyond the Omaha Public School system. This was necessary to maintain a state charter from the United States Academic Decathlon, and also as we are hoping to spread the decathlon across the entire state. The planning committee decided that the gifted program of the Omaha Public Schools could not continue to operate the Nebraska Academic Decathlon, and a new sponsor had to be found. The Nebraska District of Optimists and the University of Nebraska at Omaha agreed to co-sponsor the decathlon. In order to accomplish this, a nonprofit corporation was formed with the work of the corporation being done on a voluntary basis. Twenty teams competed in the two regional events, and the trip to the national finals in Providence, Rhode Island was won by Omaha Central High School. The marvelous thing about the Academic Decathlon is not only the participation of these eager young people, but also the volunteer efforts of teachers, outside tutors and the volunteers of the Optimists and the University of Nebraska at Omaha who can carry out this event and make it a truly memorable one for those young people. I urge your support of this resolution, and not only that, but perhaps your ongoing

and continued interest in the competition that these young people are able to participate in. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any further discussion? If not, the question is the adoption of LR 82. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 82.

PRESIDENT: The legislative resolution is adopted. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 79. Take up LR 83, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 83, offered by Senator Lynch and a majority of the membership, asking the Legislature to urge all citizens of the state to join in the observation of Worker's Memorial Day in honor of all workers who have been killed, injured or sickened by occupational hazards.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, Mr. President, members, rather than reading the whole resolution I would just like to read the last paragraph which says, whereas, April 28, 1989, the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, AFL-CIO will sponsor a Workers' Memorial Day to help bring to light the full scope of workplace injury and disease, and to assist the labor movement in its efforts to prevent needless loss of limb, life and health. And it asks the Legislature to urge all citizens to join in the observations of Workers' Memorial Day in honor of all workers who have been killed, injured or sickened by occupational hazards. The reason for this isn't to draw attention to any misery, obviously. But it is important because it does draw attention to a group of people, the largest segment of our population nationally, that in fact every day, for those of us that used to work at the tools I can tell you for sure, and for those who work in hazardous employment, like agriculture, for example, have to, every day, face sometimes very dangerous circumstances in the normal course of our occupation. I think it's important for us to recognize, because of the sheer numbers of people who are killed and seriously injured, that there is a degree of respect and understanding on the part of all of us that these kinds of circumstances exist. I think this resolution simply encourages all of us to cooperate with each other in business, and in labor, and in government, to

April 25, 1989

LB 586A
LR 82, 83

pleased me this morning since you're allowing me to talk is that one of my close personal friends who is a minister at St. Paul Methodist was our chaplain of the day, Naomi Hall. And it was just wonderful. I don't know if Harland realized that it was wonderful to have her here on my birthday. So, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Yes, and...

SENATOR CROSBY: And we are going to distribute some goodies after awhile whenever the Pages get organized. So you can enjoy my birthday with me. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Fine. Happy birthday to you from all of us and we're happy that you made it and we're also happy that you're seeing to it that we don't lose weight.

SENATOR CROSBY: I'm happy I made it too.

PRESIDENT: Thank you again. Shall we go on to the confirmation report, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb, as Chair of the Transportation Committee, would offer confirmation report that's found on page 1863 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I would recommend that this motion be adopted. There were no negative votes in the committee on these people who were appointed to this board.

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

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the confirmation report.

PRESIDENT: The report is adopted. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 82, and LR 83. Move on to General File, LB 586A.

CLERK: Mr. President, we moved 586A.

PRESIDENT: Okay, the Clerk tells me we handled all of them