

Transcript Prepared By the Clerk of the Legislature
Transcriber's Office

Floor Debate
February 12, 2015

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LB116 LB118 LB126 LB128 LB138 LB139 LB142 LB150 LB151 LB160 LB167 LB170
LB171 LB177 LB180 LB181 LB184 LB187 LB194 LB198 LB210 LB242 LB252 LB257
LB266 LB270 LB286 LB298 LB301 LB312 LB313 LB314 LB334 LB342 LB352 LB368
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PRESIDENT FOLEY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT FOLEY: GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WELCOME TO THE GEORGE W. NORRIS LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION. OUR CHAPLAIN FOR TODAY IS SENATOR LYDIA BRASCH. PLEASE RISE.

SENATOR BRASCH: (PRAYER OFFERED.)

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR BRASCH. I CALL TO ORDER THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION. SENATORS, PLEASE RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. ROLL CALL. MR. CLERK, PLEASE RECORD.

CLERK: I HAVE A QUORUM PRESENT, MR. PRESIDENT.

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. ARE THERE ANY CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL?

CLERK: I HAVE NO CORRECTIONS.

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. ARE THERE ANY MESSAGES, REPORTS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS?

CLERK: YOUR COMMITTEE ON ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW REPORTS THEY HAVE EXAMINED AND REVIEWED LB23 AND RECOMMEND THAT IT BE PLACED ON SELECT FILE. LB107, LB87, LB90, LB70, LB446, LB194, LB301, LB314, LB252, LB286, LB116, LB266, LB312, LB313, LB45, LB181, LB180, LB298, LB352, ALL SELECT FILE, SOME OF THOSE HAVING ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW AMENDMENTS ATTACHED. NEW RESOLUTION, SENATOR BRASCH, LR54. MR. PRESIDENT, THAT WILL BE LAID OVER AT THIS TIME. I HAVE REPORTS RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE AVAILABLE ON LEGISLATIVE WEB SITE FOR MEMBER REVIEW, LOBBY REPORT AS REQUIRED BY STATUTE. YOUR COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CHAIRED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, REPORTS LB128 AND LB242 TO GENERAL FILE. THAT'S ALL THAT I HAVE, MR. PRESIDENT. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 485-494.) [LB23 LB107 LB87 LB90 LB70 LB446

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LB194 LB301 LB314 LB252 LB286 LB116 LB266 LB312 LB313 LB45 LB181 LB180
LB298 LB352 LR54 LB128 LB242]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. SENATORS, WE'RE NOW GOING TO PROCEED TO FINAL READING. PURSUANT TO THE RULES, WOULD ALL SENATORS PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEATS IN PREPARATION FOR FINAL READING. WE WILL NOW PROCEED TO FINAL READING. MR. CLERK, LB1. [LB1]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE A MOTION ON THE DESK. SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL TO SELECT FILE FOR PURPOSES OF STRIKING THE ENACTING CLAUSE. [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU MR. CLERK. SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB1]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, THERE HAS BEEN A SUBJECT DISCUSSED IN THE NEWSPAPER. I'VE GOTTEN A LOT OF PHONE CALLS, SO I'M GOING TO MAKE A COMMENT OR TWO. IT RELATES TO REMARKS THAT I MADE DURING AN EXEC SESSION OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WHICH, BASED ON NEWS REPORTS, OFFENDED A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. WHEN I WAS ASKED WHAT DID I SAY THAT WAS OFFENSIVE, I SAID, YOU HAVE TO TALK TO THE MEMBER. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAY THAT WILL OFFEND ANYBODY. BUT PEOPLE TAKE OFFENSE ALL THE TIME. AND TO ONE OF THE REPORTERS I EXPLAINED IT LIKE THIS, BECAUSE YOU BRING RELIGION IN HERE EVERY MORNING ANYWAY, SO THAT'S WHY I WILL TALK ABOUT RELIGION. WHEN THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS--THERE YOU GO AGAIN--DECIDED THAT JESUS WAS A BAD ACTOR BECAUSE WHAT HE SAID WENT AGAINST WHAT THEY WANTED TO HAVE SAID, THEY HAD HIM ARRESTED AND EVENTUALLY SENT HIM THROUGH A KANGAROO TRIAL AND HE WAS EXECUTED, EVEN THOUGH THE ROMAN GOVERNOR FELT HE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EVEN ARRESTED BECAUSE HE FOUND NO FAULT IN HIM. AND ON THAT I TELL PEOPLE, HAD I BEEN A ROMAN SENATOR, PERHAPS JESUS WOULD BE...HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE A FULL LIFE BECAUSE I WOULD HAVE TRIED TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY. BUT THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS. I DON'T KNOW OF ANYBODY IN HERE WHO WILL SAY THAT JESUS WAS NOT INNOCENT, BUT HE WAS EXECUTED. AT ANY RATE, PILATE WAS DEALING WITH HIM. HE WAS THE ROMAN GOVERNOR AND HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THE RELIGIOUS DISPUTES. SO HE HAD JESUS TAKEN TO HEROD, WHO WAS THE KING, AND TOLD HEROD, YOU DEAL WITH HIM. AND HEROD SAID, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TALK TO YOU, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT, SO I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK. AND JESUS WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING. SO I'M SHORTENING THE STORY TO GET TO MY POINT. HEROD SENT HIM BACK TO PILATE. THEN THERE WAS A VERSE THAT

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SAID SOMETHING TO THIS EFFECT. FROM THAT DAY FORWARD, HEROD AND PILATE BECAME FRIENDS BECAUSE, PRIOR TO THAT, THERE WAS ENMITY BETWEEN THEM. RELIGIONS BATTLE MORE THAN HEROD AND PILATE BATTLED. RELIGIONS CAN'T EVEN AGREE ON THE GOD THEY WORSHIP. SOME RELIGIONS SAY THERE IS ONE GOD, AND I'M TALKING ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS, AND I MAKE IT PLURAL. OTHERS BELIEVE IN THREE GODS AS SOME CHRISTIANS WILL DEFINE THAT NOTION OF FATHER, SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST, THREE DIFFERENT. SO HERE IS WHAT I TOLD THE REPORTER. I HAVE PERFORMED A MIRACLE. ALL OF THESE RELIGIONS WHO CANNOT EVEN AGREE ON WHO THE GOD IS THAT THEY WORSHIP HAVE BEEN MADE TO AGREE ON ONE THING. ALL OF THEM DON'T LIKE ERNIE CHAMBERS. SO I HAVE DONE WHAT JESUS DID IN THE EARLY DAYS, SO YOU ALL BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY ABOUT ME. BUT HERE IS HOW I RESPOND TO ANY AND EVERYBODY WHO DOESN'T LIKE WHAT I SAY WHEN CHURCHES AND OTHERS STICK THEIR NOSE INTO THE LEGISLATURE. AND I MAY HAVE HANDED THIS OUT, BUT THE TITLE IS "PEACE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC." "TWO THINGS NEVER SHOULD BE JOINED: RELIGION AND THE STATE. EACH, THE OTHER, WILL INFUSE WITH BITTERNESS AND HATE. FOREVER SHOULD A WALL EXIST BETWEEN THESE WARRING FORCES; BOTH HOLD POWERS OF THEIR OWN DERIVED FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES. BOTH CAN BE AT PEACE IF NEITHER, FROM ITS MISSION STRAYS. WISDOM COUNSELS THAT THEY GO FOREVER, SEPARATE WAYS. THIS SOLUTION, ELEGANT, IS PRACTICAL AND SIMPLE: LET THE STATE KEEP TO ITS REALM, RELIGION, TO ITS TEMPLE. THIS LAST COGENT OBSERVATION, THEN MY WORK IS DONE. RELIGION STARTED COUNTLESS WARS, BUT NEVER ENDED ONE." SO YOU'VE GOT A WHOLE LOT OF PEOPLE YOU NEED TO GET...TAKE OFFENSE AT BEFORE YOU GET TO ME. I DON'T PRETEND TO BE RELIGIOUS. AND UNTIL SOMEBODY CAN SHOW ME THAT WHAT I SAY IS FALSE, THEN I SAY THAT THEY ARE THE ONES WHO NEED TO CHECK ON WHETHER OR NOT THEIR EMOTIONS RUN AWAY WITH THEM. BUT I'M GOING TO SAY WHAT I THINK IS APPROPRIATE. AND WHEN THESE CHURCHES, ESPECIALLY THE ONES THAT SEND LOBBYISTS DOWN HERE, INTRUDE INTO THE POLITICAL ARENA, I MAKE THE ADMONITION TO THEM THAT THE REFEREE MAKES AT EVERY PRIZE FIGHT: PROTECT YOURSELF AT ALL TIMES. YOU COME HERE. YOU BROUGHT YOUR STUFF HERE. AND YOU'RE GOING TO GET FROM ME WHAT THESE OTHER LOBBYISTS GET WHEN I DISAGREE WITH THEM AND WHAT THEY'RE DEALING WITH. AND HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I SAID. IF I OFFEND YOU, DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON SOMEBODY ELSE, TAKE IT OUT ON ME. I'VE GOT BILLS. THEY MEAN SOMETHING TO ME. KILL THEM. GET EVEN. AND I WILL THEN TAKE MY REVENGE ON EVERYBODY. AND I WILL NOT MAKE IT AS AN IDLE THREAT. THIS LEGISLATURE WILL BE MINE FOR THE REST OF THE SESSION. NOW YOU TRY ME IF YOU THINK I'M NOT TELLING THE TRUTH, AND I COULD START RIGHT NOW. I CAN OFFER A RETURN MOTION ON EVERY BILL ON FINAL READING, AND I CAN TAKE ALL 25

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OF MY MINUTES. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? I'M NOT GOING TO DO IT THIS MORNING, BUT I WANT YOU TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE. AND WHEN YOU OFFER SOME OF THESE RELIGIOUS AMENDMENTS, IF THEY ARE ADDED TO A BILL, THEN I'M GOING TO OFFER THAT AMENDMENT TO ANY NUMBER OF BILLS ON THE FLOOR OF THIS LEGISLATURE, THAT IF SOMETHING THAT THE STATE WANTS TO MAKE ME DO AND IT VIOLATES MY CONSCIENCE, I DON'T HAVE TO DO IT. I DON'T HAVE TO DO IT. AND THE SUPREME COURT DOESN'T REQUIRE YOU TO BE A CHRISTIAN IN ORDER TO PROTECT WHAT YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR RELIGIOUS BELIEF. THE CHRISTIANS STRIPPED MUHAMMAD ALI OF HIS CHAMPIONSHIP BECAUSE, PURSUANT TO THE BELIEF THAT HE HAD IN HIS RELIGION, HE WOULD NOT JOIN THE MILITARY. AND THEY WANTED TO PROSECUTE HIM. AND A UNANIMOUS U.S. SUPREME COURT SAID, UH-UH, FELLOWS, YOU'RE WRONG. AND THEY WIPED AWAY THE CHARGES. ALI REGAINED HIS TITLE. THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO WILL GO TO THE MAT. I DON'T HAVE A RELIGIOUS BELIEF, BUT I HAVE A BELIEF IN WHAT MY DUTY IS. AND ALL I NEED TO KNOW, AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, IS THAT YOU SHOW ME THE RULES YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY BY. AND IF SOME RELIGIOUS NOTION CAUSES A BILL THAT OUGHT TO BE ON THIS FLOOR TO NOT MAKE IT TO THE FLOOR, OR IF THAT IS ADDED TO A BILL AND IT COMES TO THE FLOOR, LOOK FOR IT TO BE OFFERED BY ME. AND I WILL DO IT. AND NOT ONLY WILL I OFFER THAT AMENDMENT, I WILL ATTACK THE BILL TO WHICH I ATTEMPT TO ADD IT. THE ONLY THING WE REALLY HAVE TO DO, IN MY OPINION, IS BUILD A BUDGET. AND IF WE CANNOT BUILD IT DURING THE REGULAR SESSION, THE GOVERNOR CAN CALL A SPECIAL SESSION. NOW, ANY OF YOU ALL WHO THINK THAT I AM BLUFFING, TRY ME. AND I REMIND YOU, I'M 77 YEARS OLD. YOU ALL SHOULD BE ABLE TO WEAR ME OUT. BUT I DEFY YOU, AND I MEAN WHAT I SAY. I DID NOT START THIS AND MAKE IT A PUBLIC ISSUE, BUT IT HAS BECOME ONE, AND IT WAS BROUGHT TO ME. YOU'LL GET NO APOLOGIES FROM ME. I WILL NOT REFRAIN FROM SAYING WHAT I OUGHT TO SAY. YOU'RE NOT WORRIED ABOUT OFFENDING ME OR ANYBODY ELSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS A FILIBUSTER GOING ON NOW ON A BILL. SO OTHERS ARE GOING TO HELP ME RUN OUT THE CLOCK. AND IF I DECIDE THAT THAT IS MY NUMBER-ONE PROJECT THIS SESSION, MAYBE IT'S GOOD FOR THE NEW SENATORS TO TAKE IT AS A PART OF THEIR ORIENTATION... [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB1]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...AND THE LEARNING PROCESS. RIGHT NOW, I'M JUST MAKING SOME THINGS CLEAR. IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT WITH ME, FIGHT WITH ME. DON'T GO AFTER SOMEBODY ELSE WHO DID NOT SAY WHATEVER IT WAS I SAID THAT WAS OFFENSIVE, WHO DID NOT DO WHATEVER I DID THAT WAS CONSIDERED OFFENSIVE. I DID IT, I SAID IT, AND I'M NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT I SAID THAT WAS OFFENSIVE, BUT I SAY A LOT OF THINGS THAT PEOPLE

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DON'T LIKE. SO YOU HAVE TO ZERO IN AND TELL ME WHAT IT WAS. AND THEN IF YOU SHOW ME THAT I WAS MISTAKEN, I WILL AS PUBLICLY RECANT IT AS I PUBLICLY STATED IT. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND I WILL WITHDRAW THAT MOTION. [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: WITHOUT OBJECTION, THE MOTION IS WITHDRAWN. SENATOR KRIST. EXCUSE ME. [LB1]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR KRIST WOULD MOVE TO RETURN THE BILL FOR PURPOSES OF STRIKING THE ENACTING CLAUSE. [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE WELCOME TO OPEN ON YOUR MOTION. [LB1]

SENATOR KRIST: I APPRECIATE THE COURTESY OF THE CLERK AND OF THE PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, MR. PRESIDENT, GOOD MORNING, MEMBERS, AND GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. I WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED BY SENATOR CHAMBERS. HE AND I HAD A LONG CONVERSATION YESTERDAY. WE TALKED ABOUT MANY THINGS, PHILOSOPHY, HISTORY, LIFE EXPERIENCES, AND IF THE CHALLENGE IS THAT I SHOULD TAKE OUT THE COMMENTS THAT HE MADE, WHICH HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HE SAID, I DON'T NEED TO EXPLAIN IT TO HIM, HE'S A VERY INTELLIGENT PERSON, WE'VE ALREADY DISCUSSED IT. BUT IF THE CHARGE IS THAT I SHOULD CHALLENGE HIM AND HIS BILLS, THEN I ACCEPT THAT CHALLENGE. MY INTENTION THIS AFTERNOON DURING THE EXEC SESSION, IF I HAVE TO WAIT THAT LONG, IS TO WITHDRAW MY MOTION TO RECONSIDER AND LET THAT BILL COME TO THE FLOOR FOR DISCUSSION, AT WHICH POINT I WILL STILL HAVE...I WILL STILL HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF A CLOSED CLASS AND SOME RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS AS AN AMENDMENT. BUT I WILL DO THAT ON THE FLOOR AS IT SHOULD BE DONE. I DON'T THINK I NEED TO SAY ANY MORE. I THINK THIS ISSUE IS CLOSED. I THINK THE PRESS MADE A LOT MORE OUT OF IT THAN IT NEEDED TO BE. BUT I DO THINK THAT A COMMON RESPECT AND CIVILITY FOR MEMBERS OF THIS BODY IS THE WAY WE SHOULD GO FORWARD. I THANK SENATOR CHAMBERS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS MY SIDE AS WELL. AND I NOW WITHDRAW THE MOTION. [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: WITHOUT OBJECTION, THE MOTION IS WITHDRAWN. MR. CLERK. [LB1]

CLERK: (READ LB1 ON FINAL READING.) [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB1 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR...EXCUSE ME. ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE

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TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB1 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB1]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 494-495.) 44 AYES, 0 NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB1]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. LB1 DOES PASS. (DOCTOR OF THE DAY INTRODUCED.) RETURNING TO FINAL READING, LB2. MR. CLERK. [LB1 LB2]

CLERK: (READ LB2 ON FINAL READING.) [LB2]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB2 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE YOU ALL VOTED WHO CARE TO? RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB2]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 495-496.) 43 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB2]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. LB2 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB3. MR. CLERK. [LB2 LB3]

CLERK: (READ LB3 ON FINAL READING.) [LB3]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB3 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB3]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 496.) 44 AYES, 0 NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB3]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB3 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB4. MR. CLERK. [LB3 LB4]

CLERK: (READ LB4 ON FINAL READING.) [LB4]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROCEDURES (SIC) OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB4

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PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY.
RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB4]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 496-497.) 44 AYES,
0 NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB4]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB4 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB5. MR. CLERK. [LB4
LB5]

CLERK: (READ LB5 ON FINAL READING.) [LB5]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE
HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB5 PASS? ALL
THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD,
PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB5]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 497.) 44 AYES, 0
NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB5]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB5 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB6. [LB5 LB6]

CLERK: (READ LB6 ON FINAL READING.) [LB6]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE
HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB6 PASS? ALL
THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE,
MR. CLERK. [LB6]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 498.) 44 AYES, 0
NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB6]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB6 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB7. MR. CLERK. [LB6
LB7]

CLERK: (READ LB7 ON FINAL READING.) [LB7]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE
HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB7 PASS? ALL
THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE YOU ALL
VOTED? RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB7]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 498-499.) 44 AYES,
0 NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING. [LB7]

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PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB7 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB8. MR. CLERK. [LB7 LB8]

CLERK: (READ LB8 ON FINAL READING.) [LB8]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB8 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB8]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 499-500.) 43 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 PRESENT AND NOT VOTING, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB8]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB8 PASSES. WE NOW PROCEED TO LB9. MR. CLERK. [LB8 LB9]

CLERK: (READ LB9 ON FINAL READING.) [LB9]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ALL PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATIVE TO PROCEDURE HAVING BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE QUESTION IS, SHALL LB9 PASS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; ALL THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB9]

CLERK: (RECORD VOTE READ, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 500.) 44 AYES, 0 NAYS, 5 EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB9]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: LB9 PASSES. WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION AND CAPABLE OF TRANSACTING BUSINESS, I PROPOSE TO SIGN AND DO HEREBY SIGN LB1, LB2, LB3, LB4, LB5, LB6, LB7, LB8, AND LB9. I ALSO PROPOSE TO SIGN AND DO HEREBY SIGN LR48, LR49, LR50, AND LR51. RETURNING NOW TO ITEMS FOR THE RECORD. MR. CLERK. [LB1 LB2 LB3 LB4 LB5 LB6 LB7 LB8 LB9 LR48 LR49 LR50 LR51]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SERIES OF HEARING NOTICES FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THOSE OFFERED BY SENATOR SULLIVAN AS CHAIR. SENATOR LARSON WOULD LIKE TO PRINT AN AMENDMENT TO LB160, SENATOR NORDQUIST TO LB446. AND I HAVE A NEW RESOLUTION, SENATOR EBKE, LR55. THAT WILL BE LAID OVER AT THIS TIME. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 500-506.) [LB160 LB446 LR55]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. RETURNING NOW TO SELECT

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FILE. MR. CLERK.

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LB18 ON SELECT FILE; DISCUSSED YESTERDAY. THE BILL WAS PRESENTED AND WHEN THE LEGISLATURE ADJOURNED FOR THE DAY, SENATOR GROENE HAD PENDING AM301 AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE BILL. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 467.) [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. SENATOR GROENE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A COUPLE MINUTES TO REFRESH US ON WHERE WE ARE ON THE BILL? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: MR. PRESIDENT, IS THIS MY CLOSING OR JUST...? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: NO, SENATOR. THIS IS...DO YOU WANT TO JUST REFRESH US ON WHERE WE ARE RELATIVE TO THE BILL? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: WE DEBATED. LB18, OF COURSE, IS MANDATING VACCINATIONS FOR CHILDREN ENTERING THE SEVENTH GRADE, AND YOUNG ADULTS AT THE AGE OF 16 BEFORE THEY CAN ENTER THE PUBLIC SCHOOL. MY AMENDMENT REFLECTS THE SAME LAW THAT WE HAVE IN EFFECT ON OUR COLLEGES THAT WE PASSED IN 2003, THIS BODY DID, THAT NOW HAS MANDATES TO THE SCHOOLS THAT THEY GIVE INFORMATION TO THE PARENTS AND THE STUDENTS SO THEY CAN FREELY MAKE THEIR DECISION IF THEY WISH TO BE VACCINATED ON MENINGITIS. AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE AT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GROENE. DEBATE IS NOW OPEN ON AM301 TO LB18. SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES, AND GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. I WONDER IF SENATOR GROENE WOULD YIELD TO A QUESTION. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE, WOULD YOU YIELD TO A QUESTION? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: YES, I WILL. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO TAKE THIS TWO HOURS AND FIVE MINUTES TO CLOTURE OR TILL WE HAVE A VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT IN SOME WAY? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: MY INTENTION IS ALWAYS POSITIVE THAT THIS

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AMENDMENT WILL PASS. IT WILL BE THE NEW BILL. AND THEN WE'LL GO ON TO APPROVE AND I WILL VOTE FOR THE NEW BILL WITH THE AMENDMENT ATTACHED. THAT IS MY INTENTION AT THIS MOMENT. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: SO YOU'RE ENGAGED IN A FILIBUSTER AND YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE IT TO THE POINT WHERE WE EITHER TAKE YOUR AMENDMENT ON MY BILL, WHICH BECOMES MY BILL, OR YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE IT THE FULL TWO HOURS AND FIVE MINUTES AND FORCE ME TO DO SOMETHING AS THE INTRODUCER. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: I DON'T PLAN ON FORCING YOU TO DO ANYTHING, SENATOR KRIST. I'M DOING WHAT I BELIEVE IS RIGHT. I DON'T BELIEVE THIS IS A COMPETITION. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: OKAY. SENATOR GROENE, I'M GOING TO INTERRUPT YOU HERE. IT'S MY TIME. I'M JUST GOING TO TELL YOU THAT THE ONLY OPTION WE HAVE AT TWO HOURS AND FIVE MINUTES FORCES ME, AS THE INTRODUCER, TO DO SOMETHING. THAT'S THE PROCEDURE. THAT'S THE RULE. YOU CAN CHECK WITH THE CLERK SO I'M NOT PUTTING YOU IN A BOX. I'M TELLING YOU, YOU TAKE ME TWO (HOURS) FIVE (MINUTES) AND I'M FORCED TO MAKE A MOTION TO GET RID OF IT, BASICALLY, OR CLOTURE. SO THAT'S THE REALITY. AND IF THAT'S YOUR REALITY, THEN I JUST WANT YOU TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ON THE MIKE. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: I DON'T MAKE ANY DECISION FOR YOU, SENATOR KRIST. I'M STANDING ON THE GROUND I... [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: OKAY. THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. HERE IT IS, FOLKS. I'M GOING TO START BY SIMPLY TALKING ABOUT MANDATES TODAY, AND I'M GOING TO ENGAGE IN THIS CONVERSATION BECAUSE IF WE'RE GOING TO GO TWO (HOURS) FIVE (MINUTES), THEN I NEED TO PUT SOME THINGS ON THE RECORD. SENATOR GROENE HAS MADE AND OTHERS HAVE MADE HUGE REMARKS ABOUT MANDATES. IF YOU REFER TO BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY, A MANDATE IS A COMMAND, ORDER, OR DIRECTION, WRITTEN OR ORAL, WHICH COURT IS AUTHORIZED TO GIVE, A PERSON IS BOUND TO OBEY. SOME OF THEM WE KNOW ARE FUNDED, AND SOME OF THEM WE KNOW ARE UNFUNDED. SO SENATOR McCOY GOT UP YESTERDAY AND TALKED ABOUT MANDATES A LITTLE BIT. SENATOR McCOY HAS LB10 WHICH HAS A VERY LARGE MANDATE. SENATOR GROENE HAS LB368, WHICH HAS A VERY INTENSE MANDATE. SENATOR EBKE HAS LB184 AND LB437 THAT HAS MANDATES. SENATOR SCHNOOR HAS LB387 THAT HAS MANDATES. SENATOR KINTNER, WHERE DO I START? LB187, PROBABLY THE BEST EXAMPLE, IT HAS MANDATES. EVEN SENATOR HUGHES, BY BASICALLY REMOVING LANGUAGE,

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HAS MANDATED THAT A LIST NO LONGER EXISTS ON THE RECORDS OR IS REQUIRED FOR ABSTRACTERS. SO LET'S TALK ABOUT MANDATES. I THINK THE SPEAKER WAS VERY ARTICULATE YESTERDAY WHEN HE SAID THERE ARE THINGS THAT GOVERNMENT MUST DO. THERE ARE DECISIONS THAT NEED TO BE MADE. IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, PUBLIC HEALTH, THAT'S OUR JOB. WE SEND OUT MANDATES IF IT IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN DISCIPLINE. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD IS ABOUT THE ONLY PERSON IN THIS ROOM THAT WAS NOT DISINGENUOUS YESTERDAY BECAUSE HE HATES MANDATES. HE WANTS TO REMOVE MANDATES SO THAT YOU CAN REMOVE THE HELMET OFF OF MOTORCYCLE RIDERS. [LB18 LB10 LB368 LB184 LB437 LB387 LB187]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: LET'S TALK ABOUT MANDATES. IT'S OKAY WHEN YOU PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT IT'S A PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUE. IT'S OKAY WHEN YOU THINK THAT WE NEED TO PUT A SIGN UP IN AN ABORTION CLINIC. IT'S OKAY WHEN WE WANT TO PUT AMBULATORY SURGICAL RESTRICTIONS ON A...AMBULATORY SURGICAL RESTRICTIONS ON A CLINIC THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH ABORTION. WELL, I THINK IT'S OKAY THAT WE MANDATE THAT THIS GO FORWARD. I'LL BE BACK ON THE MIKE SEVERAL MORE TIMES AND, YEP, IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT MANDATES. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR KRIST. SENATOR McCOY, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR McCOY: WELL, THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS. YOU KNOW, WE'VE HAD MANY DISCUSSIONS ON THE FLOOR IN MY YEARS HERE. SOMETIMES SENATOR KRIST AND I AGREE, AND SOMETIMES WE DON'T. BUT I MIGHT REMIND SENATOR KRIST THAT THE RULES THAT WE HAVE AND THAT WE'VE ADOPTED ON THIS FLOOR ARE FOR ALL OF US TO USE. WE ARE ALL AFFORDED THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES, RESPONSIBILITIES ALSO, I MIGHT ADD, AS ALL THE REST OF US. AND SO WHEN SENATOR GROENE OFFERS AN AMENDMENT--I HAPPEN TO SUPPORT HIS AMENDMENT BUT ON ANOTHER BILL I MAY NOT--THAT'S WELL WITHIN OUR...WELL WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF WHAT WE ARE ALL ALLOWED TO DO AS SENATORS. AND I MIGHT REMIND SENATOR KRIST THAT IN THOSE RULES I DON'T BELIEVE THAT ANYONE CAN FIND FOR ME ANY SECTION OF THE RULES THAT REQUIRES A SENATOR TO GET UP ON THE MICROPHONE AND TELL ANOTHER SENATOR WHAT THEY WILL DO IF THEIR AMENDMENT PASSES OR DOESN'T PASS. THERE'S NO NEED TO BADGER ANY OTHER SENATORS. WE'RE ALL AFFORDED THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES ON THIS FLOOR FOR FULL AND THOROUGH DEBATE. THAT'S ALL WITHIN OUR RIGHTS. IT'S WHAT OUR CONSTITUENTS SENT US HERE TO

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DO. SENATOR KRIST MAY NOT LIKE IT, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT ISN'T FAIR. THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT ISN'T PROPER AND RIGHT. I THINK SENATOR GROENE ANSWERED SENATOR KRIST VERY WELL. I COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER, SENATOR. YOU HAVE EVERY ABILITY AND RIGHT TO OFFER AN AMENDMENT, AND YOU DO NOT NEED TO STAND ON THE MICROPHONE AND TELL ANOTHER SENATOR WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO IF YOUR AMENDMENT PASSES OR NOT. SENATOR CHAMBERS DOESN'T DO THAT. AND WHAT'S GOOD FOR THE GOOSE IS GOOD FOR THE GANDER, TO USE SENATOR HAAR/HARR'S WORDS. WE ALL HAVE THE SAME ABILITY AS SENATOR CHAMBERS ON THIS FLOOR TO USE THE RULES AND TO USE THEM THOROUGHLY. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR McCOY. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. I HAVE A QUESTION I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CLARIFIED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK. I SPOKE THREE TIMES ON THIS AMENDMENT YESTERDAY. DO I GET ANOTHER THREE TIMES THIS MORNING? THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME QUESTION ON THE FLOOR. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: YES. IT'S A NEW DAY, SENATOR. WE'RE RESTARTING THE SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: OKAY. THANK YOU. I MENTIONED THAT POSSIBILITY TO SOME SENATORS AND THEY SAID, NO, YOU DON'T, YOU COUNT YESTERDAY'S. AND THANK YOU FOR THE CLARIFICATION. COLLEAGUES, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, I DON'T CARE MUCH FOR MANDATES. I UNDERSTAND MANDATES WHERE THEY'RE NEEDED. I DON'T BELIEVE THIS IS ONE OF THOSE PLACES. WE HAD ZERO CASES OF THIS DISEASE IN NEBRASKA LAST YEAR; VERY FEW, I THINK ONE OR TWO THE YEAR BEFORE. THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT'S OVERWHELMING THE STATE. I DON'T BELIEVE IN THIS INSTANCE THAT THE STATE OF NEBRASKA SHOULD BE REACHING IN TO PEOPLE'S LIVES, FAMILY DECISIONS, AND MEDICAL CARE TO TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING THAT IS NOT A PROBLEM HERE IN THIS STATE. IF WE GO THE ALLOTTED TIME, SENATOR KRIST IS RIGHT. HE WILL HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION. HE WILL EITHER HAVE TO TAKE IT TO CLOTURE, GET THE VOTES NECESSARY TO OVERCOME CLOTURE, OR HE CAN PULL THE BILL, WHICHEVER HE CHOOSES TO DO. HE COULD EVEN AT SOME POINT DECIDE TO BRACKET THE BILL UNTIL A LATER DATE AND WE WOULD VISIT IT AGAIN LATER ON. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS HE CAN DO. BUT HE IS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT THAT IF WE GO THE ALLOTTED TIME, HE WILL HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION. THAT'S PART OF WHAT WE DO DOWN HERE. THAT'S PRETTY MUCH ALL WE DO DOWN

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HERE IS MAKE DECISIONS OF WHAT WE THINK IS BEST FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR BLOOMFIELD. SENATOR SMITH, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR SMITH: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. MY, SOME OF US WOKE UP ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE BED THIS MORNING. BUT I JUST WANTED TO STAND UP AND MAKE CERTAIN I'M CLEAR AS TO WHY I VOTED IN SUPPORT OF LB18. AND I KNOW WE'RE GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS WITH A FILIBUSTER. I CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND. I'VE HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH SENATOR GROENE, UNDERSTAND WHY HE'S OPPOSING THE UNDERLYING BILL. AND I CERTAINLY RESPECT HIS ABILITY TO TAKE WHATEVER MEASURES HE WANTS TO TAKE TO ELIMINATE THE BILL. EACH ONE OF US, ALL 49 OF US, HAVE THAT RIGHT TO DO THAT. AND I CONTINUE TO SUPPORT LB18, BUT CERTAINLY NOT DUE TO THE TONE THAT WAS SET THIS MORNING. I THINK THAT WAS OUT OF LINE, INAPPROPRIATE. THERE'S A NUMBER OF REASONS THAT I BELIEVE COLLEAGUES WILL OPPOSE LB18. SOME MAY SAY IT'S BECAUSE OF THE PRECEDENCE OF A MANDATE. BUT OTHER VACCINES ARE MANDATED. IS THIS PARTICULAR INFECTION, IS IT EQUAL TO THE OTHERS THAT HAVE BEEN MANDATED? I THINK, COLLEAGUES, I WOULD ERR ON THE SIDE OF PUBLIC HEALTH. AND WE CAN AGREE TO DISAGREE ON THAT AS TO WHETHER IT RISES TO THE SAME LEVEL AS SOME OF THE OTHER INFECTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED IN STATUTE. THAT'S SOMETHING WE CAN DISAGREE ON. I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT THERE'S A RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH. AND SO I'M WILLING TO SAY THERE'S A RISK THERE. SOME MAY OPPOSE LB18 BECAUSE OF THE COST OF THE FISCAL NOTE, AND THERE IS A COST TO GOVERNMENT. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE CAN ESCAPE THE COST OF GOVERNMENT. THERE ARE PLACES TO SPEND THE MONEY. THERE ARE PLACES TO FIGHT AND PUSH BACK. AND I'VE STOOD UP HERE MANY, MANY TIMES TO PUSH BACK ON THE COST OF THE INCREASING COST OF GOVERNMENT. MAY I HAVE A...MAY I BRING THIS TO ATTENTION, PLEASE? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: (GAVEL) SENATORS, COME TO ORDER, PLEASE. THANK YOU. [LB18]

SENATOR SMITH: BUT THERE'S NO QUESTION THERE'S A FISCAL NOTE HERE. THAT'S FINE. IF YOU WANT TO OPPOSE BECAUSE OF A FISCAL NOTE, I ACCEPT THAT. AND THEN THERE'S PARENTAL RIGHTS. AND IF YOU WANT TO OPPOSE IT BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE IT INFRINGES UPON PARENTAL RIGHTS, I ACCEPT THAT TOO. I GET THAT. I'VE BEEN A DEFENDER OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, BE IT THE CHOICE OF PARENTS IN THEIR EDUCATION WITH THEIR CHILDREN,

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WHETHER IT'S HOMESCHOOL, PUBLIC, PRIVATE. SO THERE'S A LOT OF REASONS YOU MAY WANT TO OPPOSE LB18 AND THAT'S OKAY. THAT'S ACCEPTABLE. AND I CERTAINLY AGREE WITH YOUR RIGHT TO DO THAT. BUT, COLLEAGUES, THIS IS NOT A CONSERVATIVE LITMUS TEST. AND THERE HAVE BEEN SOME ON THE MIKE YESTERDAY THAT I REALLY TAKE ISSUE WITH THAT HAVE MADE THIS AN ISSUE OF CONSERVATIVE LITMUS TEST. SO YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOUR DECISION AS TO WHERE YOU STAND ON THIS. AND IT'S OKAY. I CHOOSE TO SUPPORT LB18 BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE THERE'S A PUBLIC HEALTH RISK. BUT I ALSO RESPECT MY COLLEAGUES IF THEY HAVE A REASON THEY WANT TO OPPOSE IT. I DO...IF THERE'S A CONSTRUCTIVE AMENDMENT THAT COMES THROUGH HERE, I MAY SUPPORT IT. I'M GOING TO LOOK AT EACH ONE OF THE AMENDMENTS ON ITS OWN FACE. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR SMITH: I WILL END UP SUPPORTING LB18, AND I WILL VOTE FOR CLOTURE TO ALLOW THIS TO BE AN UP OR DOWN VOTE. AND SOME OF YOU MAY CHOOSE NOT TO VOTE FOR CLOTURE BECAUSE THAT'S A MEANS BY WHICH YOU CAN KILL THE BILL. THAT'S OKAY TOO. SO LET'S JUST MAKE CERTAIN THAT WE RESPECT EACH OTHER AT THE END OF THE DAY AS TO HOW WE ARRIVE AT OUR VOTES. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR SMITH. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) SENATOR GROENE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR. I'VE GOT WHITE HAIR. I'VE BEEN AROUND THE BLOCK A COUPLE OF TIMES. I DON'T TAKE THINGS PERSONAL. TELL YOU A STORY. ONE TIME IN BUSINESS I WAS SITTING ACROSS THE DESK FROM A VERY IMPORTANT INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMER. HE WAS SCREAMING. HE WAS RED IN THE FACE AND HE GOT REALLY MAD AT ME. AND I WAS SMILING. HE FINALLY SAID, I'M NOT GOING GET TO YOU, AM I? I SAID, NOPE. I SAID, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT HERE. I SAID, IF YOU BRING...SAY ANYTHING BAD ABOUT MY WIFE OR MY CHILDREN OR MY DOG, I'LL BE ACROSS THAT DESK IN A HURRY. SO I DON'T TAKE THINGS PERSONAL. THIS ISN'T SENATOR GROENE AGAINST SENATOR KRIST. I DON'T CARE WHO BROUGHT THIS BILL. WHEN I RAN FOR OFFICE, I TOLD MY VOTERS THAT I BELIEVED IN LIMITED GOVERNMENT, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. THIS BILL FLIES IN THE FACE OF BOTH OF THOSE PRINCIPLES. THAT IS WHY I STAND HERE. THAT IS WHY I'M DOING WHAT I'M DOING. I'M NOT TRYING TO GAIN NOTORIETY AT ALL. I'D JUST AS SOON THIS THING WASN'T ON TV. BUT I DID NOT READ THE PAPERS THIS MORNING PURPOSELY BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO BE INFLUENCED WHAT WAS REPORTED BECAUSE I STAND HERE IN PRINCIPLE--PERSONAL

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RESPONSIBILITY. AND THEN I LOOK AT THE FACTS. I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED AT FACTS. I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO, DON'T LEAD WITH EMOTION BECAUSE THAT'S NOT THE RIGHT THING TO DO. WE ARE ENDOWED HERE BY THE ELECTORATE TO LOOK AT THE FACTS AND TO DO WHAT WE NEED TO DO RIGHT FOR THEM. THIS MANDATE IS WRONG. IT'S COMPLETELY WRONG. I HAVE...SENATOR KRIST YESTERDAY SAID HE TALKED TO THE WESTERN REGIONAL DOCTOR FROM THERE. AND I WAS CONFUSED BECAUSE I DIDN'T TALK TO ANY DOCTOR FROM THE WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER IN NORTH PLATTE. I TALKED TO A YOUNG LADY BY THE NAME OF SHANNON VANDERHEIDEN. I'M ASSUMING HE TALKED TO A DR. WENDY GOSNELL WHO JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE PHYSICIAN ON THE BOARD. BUT I'VE ALSO BEEN...I GOT A FEW FRIENDS THAT ARE LAWYERS WHO HAVE TOLD ME DON'T EVER REPEAT HEARSAY AND SURE DON'T REPEAT IT WHEN IT'S TWICE REMOVED. I'M SURE THE DOCTOR TALKED TO SHANNON AND I ASKED HER FOR FACTS WHEN I CALLED. SHE KEPT TALKING ABOUT MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH, AND I KEPT TELLING HER I'M LOOKING FOR FACTS ON MENINGITIS IN OUR REGION, THE SIX-COUNTY REGION. I SAID, I WANT TO KNOW HOW MANY CASES HAVE BEEN IN THE AREA. SHE DIDN'T KNOW. BUT SHE FOUND OUT THE SAME STATISTICS WE HAD AND SHE TOLD MY AIDE WHEN SHE CALLED BACK THAT THERE WAS ONE CASE LAST YEAR. I'M ASSUMING SHE HEARD ABOUT THE ONE IN HERMAN THAT THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE WE GOT. BUT THEN SHE CALLED BACK LATER AND SAID, NO, WE HAVE GOT TWO LISTS. WE'VE GOT ONE THAT SAID SUSPECTED CASES AND THEN WE GOT A CASE THAT SAYS CONFIRMED. I'M SURE THE REPORTER FROM THE HERMAN PAPER WHO WROTE THAT DID NOT FOLLOW UP AND FIND OUT THAT THAT CASE WAS NEVER CONFIRMED. WE HAD ZERO CASES IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. OUR AMENDMENT HELPS THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM. IT HELPS THE PRIVATE DOCTORS TO REINFORCE THE IDEA THAT THE POPULACE SHOULD BE EDUCATED ON THIS DISEASE. THERE'S NO HARM BEING DONE HERE. WE STAND HERE AND THOSE THAT SUPPORT THIS AMENDMENT ARE NOT TRYING TO FORCE A MANDATE ON ANYBODY. WE ARE NOT THE ONES THAT ARE PUSHING BIG GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE FAITH IN OUR FELLOW CITIZENS. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: AND THIS AMENDMENT WILL HELP THEM MAKE PROPER DECISIONS IN THE HEALTH OF THEIR PERSONAL HEALTH AND THE HEALTH OF THEIR CHILDREN. SO I WILL CLOSE AT THAT. THANK YOU. THIS IS NOT MY CLOSE. THIS IS JUST... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: UNDERSTAND, SENATOR. THANK YOU. SENATOR EBKE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

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SENATOR EBKE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I JUST MAKE A COUPLE OF BRIEF COMMENTS. I APPRECIATE SENATOR KRIST'S COMMENTS AND WE CAN TALK AT ANOTHER TIME ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT SOME OF THE BILLS THAT HE CALLED OUT FOR A NUMBER OF US ARE MANDATES OF SOME SORT OR NOT. CERTAINLY I DON'T THINK THEY ARE. WE'VE TALKED A LOT ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH RISK AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS BILL OR THE PERCEIVED IMPORTANCE OF THIS BILL FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH RISK STANDPOINT. I WAS IN THE MIDST ACTUALLY OF DOING SOME RESEARCH AS YOU CALLED ON ME, MR. PRESIDENT, AND I WOULD ARGUE THAT IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE MANDATES FOR THINGS THAT ARE OF A PUBLIC HEALTH RISK THAT THE CURRENT VACCINE FOR HPV, HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS, YOU SHOULD BE HIGHER ON OUR LIST THAN MENINGITIS. THE NUMBERS THAT I WAS LOOKING AT HERE SHOWED THAT IN ONE YEAR ALONE, 2011, THERE WERE 12,109 DIAGNOSED CASES OF CERVICAL CANCER, WHICH IS KNOWN TO BE CAUSED BY THE HPV VIRUS. AND 4,092 PEOPLE DIED IN THAT ONE YEAR FROM CERVICAL CANCER. WHEREAS IN FOUR YEARS, ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL, THERE WERE 4,100 APPROXIMATELY CASES OF MENINGITIS, FAR FEWER, 1 IN 7, IF WE BELIEVE THE STATISTICS, THAT MAY HAVE DIED. AND SO FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH STANDPOINT, YOU KNOW, A VACCINE THAT PREVENTS...THAT PREVENTS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, I THINK, MAKES MORE SENSE THAN THIS PARTICULAR ONE IF WE'RE GOING TO MANDATE AND HAVE SOME SORT OF HIERARCHY OF MANDATES. I HAVE NO PROBLEM, AS I'VE SAID OVER AND OVER AGAIN, WITH VACCINATING. I'VE SAID OVER AND OVER AGAIN THAT WE ACTUALLY CHOSE TO HAVE OUR DAUGHTER, WHEN SHE WENT OFF TO COLLEGE, VACCINATED FOR BACTERIAL MENINGITIS BECAUSE SHE WAS GOING TO BE LIVING IN THE DORMS AND IT SEEMED LIKE THE PRUDENT THING TO DO. MY CONCERN AND THE THINGS THAT I'M HEARING FROM SO MANY PEOPLE ARE THE CONCERNS ABOUT ADDITIONAL VACCINES AT THE SEVENTH GRADE LEVEL, ADDITIONAL VACCINES AT AGE 16, AND THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT PARENTS OUGHT TO HAVE CHOICE. SORT OF COINCIDENTALLY, I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH FOUR OR FIVE OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS. WE DO A BIWEEKLY...BIWEEKLY CONVERSATIONS CONFERENCE CALL WITH SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS IN MY DISTRICT. AND I ASKED THEM SPECIFICALLY WHAT THEY THOUGHT ABOUT THIS MANDATE. AND THEY SAID, WELL, YOU KNOW, THEY REALLY DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF YET ANOTHER MANDATE BECAUSE, DON'T FORGET, IF WE'RE GOING TO MANDATE VACCINATIONS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO BE THE GATEKEEPER. SOMEBODY'S GOT TO BE THE MANAGER OF THAT. AND FOR THE ONES THAT WE'VE ALREADY GOT, THE PEOPLE THAT ARE THE GATEKEEPERS FOR THAT ARE THE SCHOOL NURSES AND THE SCHOOLS. AND THE SCHOOLS HAVE TO DECIDE THEN WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEBODY DOESN'T COMPLY OR WHEN SOMEBODY HAS OPTED OUT OF THE VACCINE.

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THEY HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE GOING TO...WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE GOING TO KICK THE KID OUT OF SCHOOL, WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE GOING TO TURN THEM OVER TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR SOMETHING. I MEAN, WE HAVE TO DECIDE HOW MUCH WE EXPECT OUR SCHOOLS TO PLAY GATEKEEPER. THE SUPERINTENDENTS THAT I TALKED TO ALL LIKE THE IDEA OF WHAT'S FOUND IN THIS AMENDMENT... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR EBKE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT...OF MANDATING AN INFORMATION PROCESS. THEY SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM WHATSOEVER FOR THEM TO SEND HOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE VACCINES THROUGH THE USUAL COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS THAT THE SCHOOLS ENGAGE IN BUT THAT THEY WERE REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT ADDING ONE MORE VACCINE THAT HAS TO BE DONE. AND IF YOU'VE GOT 10 OR 12 OR 15 VACCINES THAT KIDS HAVE TO HAVE ACCUMULATED BY THE TIME THEY'RE IN SEVENTH GRADE, YOU KNOW, THAT'S JUST ONE MORE CHANCE THAT THEY'LL MISS IT ALONG THE ROAD. SO I APPRECIATE ALL OF THE DISCUSSION THAT WE'VE HAD SO FAR. I DO STILL SUPPORT THE AMENDMENT. AND I WILL END WITH THAT, I GUESS. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR EBKE. SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING AGAIN, COLLEAGUES; GOOD MORNING, NEBRASKA. I'M SORRY THAT PEOPLE ARE DISTURBED ABOUT THE TONE. SOMETIMES THAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE ARE ENERGIZED ABOUT THE CONVERSATION. SENATOR GROENE WANTS THIS AMENDMENT. HE HAS SOME OTHER AMENDMENTS, BUT THIS IS THE ONE THAT'S IMPORTANT TO HIM. HE'S COMMUNICATED THAT THROUGH THE CLERK. I GUESS THAT'S SECONDHAND KNOWLEDGE, BUT THE CLERK TOLD ME THAT THAT'S THE ONE THAT YOU WANTED. SO I WOULD ASK YOU THEN TO, AGAIN, CONSIDER JUST ONE THING, COLLEAGUES. WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT MANDATES. IF YOU TELL SOMEBODY WHAT TO DO IN A PIECE OF LEGISLATION AND IF YOU CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THIS GOVERNMENT, IT IS A MANDATE. BY BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY, IT IS A MANDATE. THE OTHER DISCUSSION THAT CAME UP YESTERDAY WAS THE FISCAL NOTE. AND AGAIN, SENATOR SMITH TOUCHED ON IT TODAY. I'VE CHECKED WITH THE FISCAL OFFICE. YOU CAN CHECK WITH THE MEMBERS OF APPROPRIATIONS IF YOU WISH. THE FISCAL NOTE WILL NOT CHANGE WITH THIS AMENDMENT. IT WILL NOT CHANGE. SO IF YOU VOTE IN AM301 TO LB18, THE FISCAL NOTE WILL NOT CHANGE. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY MORE TIMES I COULD SAY IT ANY

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CLEARER THAN WHAT IT IS. YEAH, I GOT IT. I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT EITHER, BUT THAT'S WHAT THE FISCAL OFFICE IS TELLING ME. SO IF YOU'RE MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT THIS BILL BASED UPON EITHER YOUR CONSCIOUS OBJECTION TO WHAT WE'RE DOING OR MANDATES OR THE FISCAL NOTE, THEN WE'RE WASTING TIME. AND BY WASTING TIME, I MEAN IT'S MY BILL. AND I HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT WE NEED TO CONSIDER THE SUBSTANCE OF THE BILL. AND IF WE'RE NOT GOING TO DO THAT, THEN IT'S LIKE THE AMBER LIGHT DISCUSSION LAST YEAR. WE DON'T NEED TO BE SPENDING THIS MUCH TIME TALKING ABOUT STUFF THAT WE ABSOLUTELY DISAGREE WITH. AND IF I COULD PUT A CLOTURE MOTION IN RIGHT NOW, I WOULD. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR KRIST. SENATOR SULLIVAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I THOUGHT PERHAPS IT WAS IMPORTANT AT THIS POINT TO REFRESH OUR MEMORIES WITH RESPECT TO THE ACTIONS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE. THE BILL, LB18, WAS ADVANCED WITH SIX OF THE MEMBERS VOTING YES, ONE VOTING NO, AND ONE PRESENT AND NOT VOTING. AT THE HEARING, 11 TESTIFIED IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL. NO ONE TESTIFIED IN OPPOSITION. AT THE TIME I CAST MY VOTE, I BELIEVED IT WAS THE RIGHT THING DO AND I STILL DO. SO I STAND IN FULL SUPPORT OF LB18. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THE CONCERNS OVER CHOICE, PERSONAL LIBERTIES, AND FREEDOM. BUT I BALANCE THOSE WITH SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES THAT WE HAVE FOR LIVING IN SOCIETY, FOR LIVING TOGETHER, NOT IN ISOLATION, NOT REMOVED FROM SOCIETY, AND WHAT RESPONSIBILITY THAT CARRIES WITH IT. AND CERTAINLY PARENTS HAVE CHOICES ON HOW TO RAISE THEIR CHILDREN. BUT EVEN THAT COMES WITH CERTAIN PARAMETERS AND CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES. WE WANT TO EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN. WE HAVE A VARIETY OF CHOICES THERE. BUT WE ALSO HAVE COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN THIS STATE. AND SO THAT PUTS THE MAJORITY OF OUR CHILDREN IN CIRCUMSTANCES, WHETHER IT'S A PRIVATE SCHOOL OR A PUBLIC SCHOOL, IN CONCENTRATED SITUATIONS THAT THEY LITERALLY HAVE NO CHOICE ABOUT. AND THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH, WITH THIS ADDING THIS VACCINATION TO THE PROTECTIONS THAT WE AFFORD OUR CHILDREN IN THOSE ENVIRONMENTS. AND, YES, WE HAVE A VARIETY OF FACTS THAT COME TO US IN MAKING THESE DECISIONS, BUT THESE FACTS MADE SENSE TO ME. MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE IS RARE BUT IT CAN BE DEADLY, LEADING TO DEATH IN 10 PERCENT TO 15 PERCENT OF THE CASES. AND AMONG THOSE WHO SURVIVE, AS MANY AS 20 PERCENT LIVE WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES SUCH AS BRAIN DAMAGE, HEARING LOSS, LOSS OF KIDNEY FUNCTION OR LIMB AMPUTATIONS. ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS ARE AMONG THOSE AT GREATEST RISK

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FOR MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE. PREVENTION OF MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE IS CRITICAL BECAUSE IT CAN BE MISTAKEN FOR THE FLU OR OTHER VIRAL INFECTIONS AND IT CAN RAPIDLY LEAD TO DEATH OR DISABILITY. AND HEALTH OFFICIALS WITH RESEARCH, FACT, NOT EMOTION LEADING THEIR DECISIONS RECOMMEND ROUTINE VACCINATION FOR CHILDREN AT 11 TO 12 YEARS OLD WITH A BOOSTER DOSE AT AGE 16 TO HELP PROTECT THEM FROM MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE. I ALSO RELY ON SOME STATISTICS IN DISEASE. GRANTED, WE HAVEN'T HAD A CASE IN NEBRASKA. BUT DOES THAT MEAN WE SHOULDN'T LOOK AT IT? HISTORICALLY, THE NUMBER OF MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASES...CASES GO UP AND DOWN OVER TIME. NOW THE NUMBER OF CASES IS AT THE LOWEST RATE IT HAS EVER BEEN IN THIS NATION. HOWEVER, IT'S SIMILAR TO POLIO. WE SAY WE'VE WON THE WAR ON POLIO. WELL, PERHAPS WE'RE WINNING THE WAR ON MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE BECAUSE IN PART THERE HAS BEEN INCREASED USE OF THE VACCINES. SO AT THE END OF THE DAY, I DO FALL BACK ON, YES, I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE PERSONAL FREEDOMS. BUT THERE ALSO COMES A RESPONSIBILITY AS POLICYMAKERS TO WEIGH THOSE PERSONAL CHOICES AND FREEDOMS WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE PROTECTIONS FOR OUR CHILDREN. AND TO THAT END, I STAND IN FULL SUPPORT... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: ...OF LB18. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR SULLIVAN. SENATOR KINTNER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KINTNER: WELL, THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. YOU KNOW, I'VE LISTENED BACK AND FORTH HERE AND IT'S BEEN QUITE INTERESTING. I'VE SERVED WITH SENATOR KRIST NOW GOING ON MY THIRD YEAR, AND HE'S INTRODUCED SOME SUBSTANTIAL LEGISLATION DURING MY TIME. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY, YOU KNOW, HE'S NEVER INTRODUCED A BILL THAT ANYONE WOULD CALL DUMB. AND IF YOU'RE HERE LONG ENOUGH, SOMEONE IS GOING TO SAY SOMETHING YOU INTRODUCE IS DUMB, BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S EVER INTRODUCED ANYTHING LIKE THAT. AND I WOULD SAY THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION IS LEGITIMATE. IT ADDRESSES A REAL CONCERN. AND IT'S PROBABLY GOOD LEGISLATION, JUST NOT YET. WE'RE JUMPING OVER A COUPLE OF STEPS THAT WE NEED TO TAKE. IF WE ADOPT THIS AMENDMENT, WHAT WE WILL DO IS WE WILL REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO SEND THE INFORMATION HOME TO THEIR PARENTS OR E-MAIL IT TO THEM, CONTACT THE PARENTS WITH INFORMATION OF HOW DEADLY, HOW DANGEROUS THIS DISEASE IS. ALONG WITH THAT, THEY HAVE TO SAY, AND HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT AND EVEN THIS IS WHERE YOU CAN DO. I

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MEAN, I WOULD GO TO MY PRIVATE DOCTOR. SOME PEOPLE WOULD GO TO A CLINIC OR AN AMBULATORY CARE CENTER FOR THIS AND THEY WILL LIST THAT AND TELL YOU WHERE TO GO. I THINK THIS IS THE PROPER APPROACH. I THINK THIS WILL WORK. WE NEED TO DO IT FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS. IF IT DOESN'T WORK, I THINK WE'RE GOING TO BE BACK HERE WITH THE SAME BILL AND THEN I WOULD SAY THAT THE BILL IS THE RIGHT BILL AT THE RIGHT TIME. RIGHT NOW, I THINK SENATOR KRIST'S BILL, AS IT'S CURRENTLY WRITTEN UNLESS WE CAN AMEND IT HERE, IS THE RIGHT BILL AT THE WRONG TIME. IT'S JUST...WE'RE JUMPING OVER A COUPLE OF STEPS, AND WE NEED TO SEE IF THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO DO IT. AND I THINK THIS IS PROBABLY A BETTER WAY TO DO IT. WE'RE GOING TO EMPOWER THE PARENTS. I TRUST THE PARENTS. I THINK PARENTS ARE SMART ENOUGH TO DO, IN THE VAST MAJORITY OF TIMES, THE VAST MAJORITY OF PARENTS SMART ENOUGH TO DO WHAT'S IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THEIR KIDS. IF WE FIND THAT THE INFORMING PARENTS, EMPOWERING THEM TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION DOESN'T WORK, THEN THAT'S A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM THAT WE MIGHT HAVE TO STEP IN. AND AT THAT POINT, I'LL BE A COSPONSOR OF SENATOR KRIST'S BILL. SO IT'S WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS THAT SENATOR KRIST INTRODUCED THIS BILL. IT'S A GOOD BILL. IT'S JUST THE WRONG TIME. AND, MR. PRESIDENT, DO I HAVE ANY TIME LEFT? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: TWO MINUTES, SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR KINTNER: I WILL YIELD MY TIME TO SENATOR EBKE, WHO MAY KNOW A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THIS THAN I DO. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR EBKE, YOU HAVE ROUGHLY TWO MINUTES IF YOU CARE TO USE IT. [LB18]

SENATOR EBKE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THANK YOU, SENATOR KINTNER, FOR YIELDING, I THINK. LET ME JUST SAY THAT, YOU KNOW, WE'VE TALKED A LOT ABOUT THE QUESTION OF MANDATES AND THE QUESTION OF COST EFFECTIVENESS. AND I DON'T KNOW THAT WE'RE GOING TO, YOU KNOW, COME DOWN ON THE SAME SIDE OF THIS ISSUE EVER ON THAT. HERE'S ANOTHER QUESTION FOR YOU TO CONSIDER THOUGH. IS IT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE TO PROTECT EVERYBODY AGAINST EVERYTHING? AND I DON'T...YOU KNOW, WE'RE GOING COME DOWN ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUE ON THAT. I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR KIDS TO GET VACCINATED. AS I'VE SAID OVER AND OVER AGAIN, I DON'T WANT MY KIDS GOING TO SCHOOL WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

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SENATOR EBKE: MEASLES, CHICKENPOX, AND SO FORTH. BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE. THIS IS NOT ONE OF THOSE DISEASES. THIS IS NOT A DISEASE THAT IS HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS. I DON'T SEE ANY SIGNS THAT...IN THE RESEARCH THAT SUGGEST THAT, YOU KNOW, IF YOU'RE IN THE SAME ROOM WITH SOMEBODY THAT HAS IT YOU'RE LIKELY TO GET IT. AND BECAUSE OF THAT, I THINK WE NEED TO TRUST PARENTS. YOU KNOW, PARENTS ARE THE ONES THAT ARE...ARE TASKED WITH CARING FOR THEIR CHILDREN. THEY ARE THEIR FIRST CAREGIVERS. AND AS A STATE, THE SCHOOLS OUGHT TO BE SECONDARY TO THAT AND PERHAPS NOT JUMP OVER THE PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS UNLESS THERE IS TRULY A COMPELLING PUBLIC HEALTH INTEREST. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR EBKE AND SENATOR KINTNER. SENATOR HOWARD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR HOWARD: THANK YOU. QUESTION. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THE QUESTION HAS BEEN CALLED. DO I SEE FIVE HANDS? I DO. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL DEBATE CEASE? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. SENATORS, THE VOTE AT THIS TIME IS TO CEASE DEBATE. SENATOR HOWARD, FOR WHAT PURPOSE DO YOU RISE? [LB18]

SENATOR HOWARD: I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A CALL OF THE HOUSE AND A RECORD VOTE. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HOWARD HAS REQUESTED A CALL OF THE HOUSE. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL THE HOUSE GO UNDER CALL? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: 33 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, TO PLACE THE HOUSE UNDER CALL. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. SENATORS, PLEASE RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. THOSE UNEXCUSED SENATORS OUTSIDE OF THE CHAMBER PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHAMBER AND RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. ALL UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL PLEASE LEAVE THE FLOOR. THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. SENATOR MELLO AND SENATOR GARRETT, THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. PLEASE RETURN TO THE FLOOR AND RECORD YOUR PRESENCE. THANK YOU. SENATOR MELLO, THE HOUSE IS UNDER CALL. PLEASE RETURN TO THE FLOOR. THE FIRST VOTE WILL BE ON CEASING

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DEBATE. SENATOR HOWARD, HOW DID YOU WANT TO PROCEED ON THIS VOTE? [LB18]

SENATOR HOWARD: I'LL TAKE A ROLL CALL VOTE. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: (ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 506.) 31 AYES, 15 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, TO CEASE DEBATE. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. DEBATE CEASES. SENATOR GROENE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO CLOSE ON AM301. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. WE HAVE STOOD HERE YESTERDAY AND TODAY TESTIFYING ON AM301 ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF NEBRASKA DEFENDING THEIR RIGHTS TO FREE...AS FREE INDIVIDUALS TO USE THEIR DEDUCTIVE REASONING SKILLS AND THEIR ABILITY TO RATIONALIZE WHAT ARE THE CORRECT CHOICES TO MAKE IN REGARD TO THE MEDICAL DECISIONS OF THEIR FAMILY. NOT ONCE DID WE ATTEMPT TO DENY ANYONE THEIR RIGHT TO VACCINATE THEIR CHILDREN OR THEMSELVES IF THEY DEEM IT NECESSARY. IN FACT, WE HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT WE ENCOURAGE CITIZENS TO EDUCATE THEMSELVES ON THE MENINGITIS DISEASE THAT COULD HARM THEM AND THEIR...COULD HARM THEM AND THE VACCINES AVAILABLE TO PREVENT IT. IN THIS CASE, WE ARE DEBATING A MANDATORY VACCINATION FOR A RARE DISEASE. VACCINES HAVE A LIMITED LIFETIME...A VACCINE THAT HAS A LIMITED LIFE SPAN AND ONLY COVERS 75 PERCENT OF THE BACTERIA THAT CAUSES THE DISEASE. THE DISEASE IS READILY TREATABLE BY COMMON ANTIBIOTICS IF CAUGHT EARLY WHEN INFECTED. WE DESIRE THAT OUR CITIZENS ARE WELL INFORMED AND ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THIS DISEASE. AM301 DOES EXACTLY THAT. IT ELIMINATES THE FALSE SECURITY THAT LB18 OFFERS WITH ITS MANDATE. AS I HAVE SAID OFTEN, NOT ALL DISEASES AND THEIR VACCINES ARE EQUAL. MMR IS CONSIDERED A LONG-LASTING VACCINE FOR MEASLES AND MUMPS AND RUBELLA WITH A 98 PERCENT TO 100 PERCENT VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS. THE DIFFERENCE, MCV4 IS NOT, WITH A VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS RATING OF 58 PERCENT BETWEEN THE SECOND AND FIFTH YEARS. AND THE CDC STATES THAT ITS EFFECTIVENESS CONTINUES TO WANE THEREAFTER. VACCINES ARE A NECESSITY IN A MODERN, CROWDED SOCIETY. BUT WE MUST NOT CRY WOLF TOO OFTEN WHERE WE CREATE AN ASSUMPTION OF FALSE SECURITY AMONG OUR POPULACE. I REMIND YOU THAT ACCORDING TO THE OFFICE OF IMMUNOLOGY WITH THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, IN 2014, IN ALL AGE GROUPS FROM INFANTS TO THE ELDERLY, THERE WERE NO CONFIRMED

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CASES IN NEBRASKA. IN THE AGE GROUP THAT THIS VACCINE MANDATE SUPPOSEDLY COVERS, OVER THE LAST 12 YEARS BACK TO 2003, THERE WERE ONLY TWO CASES IN THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL GROUP AND ONLY NINE IN THE COLLEGE AGE GROUP. NOW, REMEMBER, NOT EVERYBODY GOES TO COLLEGE. BY THE WAY, BEFORE ANYONE THINKS I'M SELECTIVELY PICKING SUPPORTIVE STATISTICS, THE NEBRASKA OFFICE OF IMMUNOLOGY DOES NOT HAVE RECORDS READILY AVAILABLE BREAKING DOWN MENINGITIS CASES BY AGE GROUP PRIOR TO 2013. THAT IS WHY I USED THE 12-YEAR SPAN--ACCURACY. WE ARE MAKING A MAJOR DECISION HERE. LB18 IS A SOLUTION LOOKING FOR A PROBLEM. THE RESULTS OF THE EXISTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORT ON PREVENTING BACTERIAL MENINGITIS IS WORKING. THIS BODY IN 2003 DID THE SAME RECOMMENDATION TO HIGHER EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN, THEIR STUDENTS. IT'S WORKING. WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO FIX? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: I CAME DOWN HERE TO PROTECT INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM. SOMETIMES I WONDER IF MANY OF US HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW RARE IN WORLD HISTORY AND ESPECIALLY IN TODAY'S WORLD THE FREEDOMS WE HAVE ARE AND THE FREE CHOICES WE ARE ABLE TO MAKE AS CITIZENS. THERE ARE RISKS TO FREEDOM. BUT DO NOT SURRENDER YOUR FREEDOM FOR THE ILLUSION OF INCREASED SECURITY. A QUOTE FOR YOU FROM ALAN SIMPSON, A RETIRED U.S. SENATOR FROM WYOMING: THERE IS NO SLIPPERY SLOPE TOWARDS LOSS OF LIBERTIES, ONLY A LONG STAIRCASE WHERE EACH STEP DOWNWARD MUST FIRST BE TOLERATED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUPPORT THIS AMENDMENT; AND IF YOU DO, I WILL SUPPORT LB18. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GROENE. SENATORS, YOU'VE HEARD THE DEBATE AND THE CLOSING ON AM301. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF AM301 TO LB18. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE...SENATOR GROENE, FOR WHAT PURPOSE DO YOU RISE? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: I'M ASKING FOR A ROLL CALL. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ROLL CALL. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: AND I'M ASKING FOR A CALL OF THE HOUSE, TOO, OR WHATNOT... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THE HOUSE IS CURRENTLY UNDER CALL, I BELIEVE,

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SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: ALL RIGHT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ROLL CALL VOTE, MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: (ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 507.) 19 AYES, 28 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE AMENDMENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. THE AMENDMENT IS NOT ADOPTED. THE CALL HAS BEEN RAISED. MR. CLERK, ITEMS FOR THE RECORD, PLEASE. [LB18]

CLERK: VERY QUICKLY, MR. PRESIDENT, THANK YOU. HEARING NOTICE FROM THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, SIGNED BY SENATOR SCHILZ. GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS LB138 TO GENERAL FILE; LB55 TO GENERAL FILE WITH AMENDMENTS. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS LR34 BACK TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. BILLS READ ON FINAL READING WERE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR AT 9:55 A.M. (RE LB1, LB2, LB3, LB4, LB5, LB6, LB7, LB8, LB9). AND I HAVE A REFERENCE REPORT, MR. PRESIDENT. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 507-509.) [LB138 LB55 LR34 LB1 LB2 LB3 LB4 LB5 LB6 LB7 LB8 LB9]

MR. PRESIDENT, WITH RESPECT TO LB18, SENATOR GROENE WOULD MOVE TO AMEND WITH AM300. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 477.) [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO OPEN ON AM300. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. AM300 IS JUST A SHORTER VERSION OF AM301, A CLEARER, SHORTER VERSION. MAYBE SOME OF MY COLLEAGUES DON'T LIKE LONG, LEGAL AMENDMENTS, SO WE SHORTENED IT UP. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016, EACH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL IN NEBRASKA SHALL REQUIRE EACH INCOMING FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AND EACH STUDENT TRANSFERRING FROM A HIGH SCHOOL LOCATED IN ANOTHER STATE WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED THE VACCINATION AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND THE STUDENT'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO CHECK A BOX ON A DOCUMENT PROVIDED BY THE HIGH SCHOOL INDICATING THAT THE STUDENT AND THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN HAVE RECEIVED THE INFORMATION PROVIDED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION 4(a) AND (b) OF THIS SECTION AND HAVE DECIDED THAT THE STUDENT WILL NOT OBTAIN A VACCINATION AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE. NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED

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TO...CONSTRUCTED TO REQUIRE A STUDENT TO OBTAIN THE VACCINATION AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE OR REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL TO PROVIDE OR PAY FOR THE VACCINATION OF A STUDENT. A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL IN NEBRASKA THAT HAS MADE A REASONABLE EFFORT TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES FOR INJURIES SUSTAINED BY A STUDENT AS A RESULT OF CONTRACTING MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE IF THE STUDENT'S CLAIM IS BASED SOLELY UPON THE PROVISION OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION. THAT IS THE AMENDMENT. I REPEAT WHAT I'VE SAID BEFORE: THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS WORKING WELL. WE SHOULD BE PROUD. BECAUSE OF PAST LEGISLATION BY THIS UNICAMERAL, WE HAVE SET UP PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS; WE HAVE ALLOWED OUR FREE-MARKET MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS TO DO THEIR JOB. IT'S WORKING. IT'S WORKING WELL: NO CASES LAST YEAR OR THE YEAR BEFORE. I THINK IT WAS ONLY 3 CASES IN THE LAST 5 YEARS, 11 IN THE LAST 12. REMEMBER, THIS IS NOT MEASLES; THIS IS NOT MUMPS; THIS IS NOT DIPHTHERIA. THIS VACCINE IS ONLY COVERING A SMALL SUBGROUP OF THE POPULACE IF IT WORKS, AND THAT'S FROM 12-21. IN THE TESTIMONY THAT WE HEARD, WE HEARD DURING THE HEARING, WHICH THIS BILL CAME OUT OF NOWHERE, I WASN'T EXPECTING IT, I WAS...WE HEARD TESTIMONY FROM A YOUNG MOTHER, MIDDLE-AGE MOTHER FROM IOWA WHO'D LOST SOME LIMBS TO THE DISEASE. SHE CONTRACTED THE DISEASE IN HER 30s. THIS VACCINATION WOULD NOT HAVE HELPED HER. IT'S A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD SPAN THAT THEY...THE CDC...AND IF YOU SAY, WELL, IT HAS A LIFE SPAN...ORIGINALLY, WHEN THE VACCINE CAME OUT, THEY'D ESTIMATED TEN YEARS. THEY REVAMPED THEIR ESTIMATION DOWN TO FIVE YEAR OF A LIFE SPAN. WE HAD A YOUNG MAN FROM KANSAS, NOT FROM NEBRASKA, COME UP HERE AT...HE WAS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS. AT THE AGE OF 22, HE CONTRACTED THE DISEASE. DO YOUR MATH. IF HE WOULD HAVE LIVED IN NEBRASKA AND HE WAS HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE DISEASE, 16 PLUS 5 IS 21. HIGHLY...THIS DISEASE AFFECTS A HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE SUBGROUP OF THE POPULATION. SO I...WE WILL GO FROM HERE. AND I WILL SIT AND LET OTHER PEOPLE COMMENT ON THIS ISSUE. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GROENE. DEBATE IS NOW OPEN ON AM300. SENATOR KUEHN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KUEHN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I DID WANT TO JUST TAKE A MOMENT HERE TO ADDRESS A COUPLE OF ISSUES. AND IT'S SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT HAVING CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC TRAINING AND BEING SOMEONE WHO ACTUALLY TEACHES A 400-LEVEL IMMUNOLOGY CLASS TO NOT JUMP IN AND CORRECT A NUMBER OF MISCONCEPTIONS, MISREPRESENTATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AND DATA THAT'S TRULY TAKEN PLACE HERE IN

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THE LAST FEW DAYS. ANYONE WHO IS A CLINICIAN DREADS WHEN SOMEONE WALKS IN OR APPROACHES THEM AND THEY START OUT WITH A QUESTION, SO I READ ON GOOGLE OR I READ ON WebMD OR I SAW SOMETHING ON THE INTERNET, AND DECIDED THAT THEY NOW HAVE BECOME AN EXPERT ON RELATIVELY COMPLICATED SCIENTIFIC PROCESSES, UNDERSTANDING AND INTERPRETING DATA, LOOKING AT RESULTS WHICH ARE SUBMITTED TO THE FDA FOR LICENSING PURPOSES ON VACCINE EFFICACY, AND DECIDES THAT THEY THEN ARE CAPABLE OF UNDERSTANDING TRULY WHAT THOSE NUMBERS MEAN, OR OVERSIMPLIFYING THEM. THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF DISCUSSION OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS ABOUT RELATIVE RISK AND WHETHER OR NOT THIS DISEASE RISES TO THE LEVEL OF CONCERN. WE CAN CERTAINLY TALK ABOUT THAT ON A GLOBAL SCALE. THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AMONG OTHERS HAVE BEEN COMBATTING THIS DISEASE IN...THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR DECADES NOW. WE CERTAINLY HAVE USED A LOT OF TERMS, LIKE HERD IMMUNITY, AS IF WE KNOW AND UNDERSTAND COLLECTIVELY AS A BODY WHAT THEY WE MEAN. AND I THINK IT'S BEEN FAIRLY OBVIOUS FROM THE DISCUSSION THAT WE DON'T. WE HAVE BEEN UTILIZING ISSUES ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT IT RISES TO THE LEVEL OF CONCERN, EVEN SO MUCH AS SAYING WE'RE GIVING PARENTS A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY BY MANDATING VACCINE FOR ADOLESCENTS. NONE OF THIS IS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE, IF YOU WILL, OF A STATE SENATOR. I DO BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO RELY UPON THE...NOT ONLY THE OPINIONS BUT THE EXPERTISE OF THOSE WHO ARE LICENSED AND TRAINED AND UNDERSTAND THIS DISCIPLINE IN A WAY THAT WE AS 49 SENATORS CANNOT EVEN BEGIN TO DO SO. AND THEIR VOICE AND THEIR OPINION IS CLEAR AND UNCHANGING. THIS IS OF SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE. THIS RISES TO THE LEVEL OF REQUIRING VACCINATION. THIS IS A SAFE AND EFFECTIVE VACCINE, AND IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR CHILDREN AND OUR COMMUNITIES TO DO SO. NOW IF WE WANT TO GET INTO SPECIFIC NUMBERS RELATIVE TO WANING OF VACCINE STATUS AND TIGHTER LEVELS, I'M HAPPY TO HAVE THAT CONVERSATION OFF MIKE, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ALONG A LITTLE BIT WITH BSAs AND ANOTHER TYPE OF...AND SBAs AND OTHER TECHNICAL TERMS WHICH PHYSICIANS UNDERSTAND BUT MOST OF US IN THIS BODY DO NOT. SO I THINK WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT OVERSTEPPING OUR LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE. WIKIPEDIA DOES NOT EQUATE TO A MEDICAL DEGREE, NOR DOES SIMPLY READING AN ARTICLE AND TAKING A FEW STATEMENTS OUT OF IT AND THINKING THAT WE UNDERSTAND THAT THAT IS SCIENCE. IT'S MUCH MORE COMPLICATED. THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY, THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY IS UNDIVIDED AND CLEAR ON THIS ISSUE, AND I THINK WE NEED TO RESPECT THEIR EXPERTISE. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR KUEHN. SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE

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RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: JUST FOR THE RECORD, I DO NOT SUPPORT AM300 TO LB18. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR KRIST. SENATOR GLOOR, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR GLOOR: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, MEMBERS. I'VE STAYED OUT OF THIS DEBATE OTHER THAN MY VOTES, WHICH HAVE BEEN IN SUPPORT OF LB18 AND AGAINST THE AMENDMENTS THAT SENATOR KRIST FINDS AS HOSTILE AMENDMENTS. THE SAME WILL BE TRUE OF THIS. BUT I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ON THE MANDATE ISSUE THAT I THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT FOR ME TO SHARE MY PERSPECTIVE ON MANDATES AS RELATES TO HEALTHCARE BECAUSE IT'S DIFFERENT. AND CERTAINLY I SEE IT DIFFERENTLY, AS WOULD SENATORS RIEPE AND HILKEMANN, BECAUSE OF A CAREER WHERE WHAT I ENDED UP HAVING TO INTERACT WITH AND DEAL WITH WERE PEOPLE WHO WERE SITTING IN EMERGENCY ROOMS, SITTING IN CORONARY UNITS, LONG-TERM CARE AND REHAB FACILITIES, SAYING, WHY DIDN'T SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, WHY DIDN'T SOMEBODY STOP ME FROM MAKING WHAT IS A BAD DECISION BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE THE INFORMATION PRESENTED TO ME TO THE EXTENT THAT WE HAVE INFORMATION PRESENTED TO ME? I RARELY HAD SOMEBODY COME TO ME IN MY YEARS AS A HOSPITAL CEO SAYING, YOU'RE DOING TOO MUCH, STOP THE CARE YOU'RE PROVIDING, STOP IT. THEY SAID JUST THE OPPOSITE: HOW COME SOMEBODY DIDN'T TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING, PUT A MANDATE IN PLACE? AND THAT HAPPENS IN HEALTHCARE TO AN EXTENT. IT DOESN'T HAPPEN IN OTHER PARTS OF OUR SOCIETY BECAUSE, WHEN WE LOSE OUR HEALTH, WHEN ONE OF OUR LOVED ONES LOSES THEIR HEALTH, IT IS THE MOST BASIC NEED OUT THERE. RICH OR POOR, WE'RE SCARED TO DEATH, TERRIFIED, IN PAIN AND SORROW WHEN WE LOSE OUR HEALTH. AND THAT'S HOW HEALTH MANDATES END UP BEING A LOT DIFFERENT THAN SPEED LIMITS, ALTHOUGH CLEARLY SPEED LIMITS FIND THEIR WAY TO HEALTH. AND THAT'S THE REASON WE HAVE THE THEM. LET ME TAKE THAT TO ITS OWN CONCLUSION BECAUSE, I AGREE, MANDATES ARE A HARD ISSUE TO DEAL WITH, HARD TO COME TO GRIPS WITH, ESPECIALLY IN A LEGISLATIVE SETTING. IT'S NOT ILLEGAL TO DRINK AT A CERTAIN AGE, IT'S NOT ILLEGAL TO DRIVE YOUR CAR AT A CERTAIN AGE, BUT IT IS ILLEGAL TO DRINK AND DRIVE. AND THAT'S A DECISION THAT WE GET INVOLVED IN MAKING. IT'S A DECISION THAT ACROSS THE COUNTRY A BROAD, BROAD, BROAD BAND OF ORGANIZATIONS, CITIZENS, CONSTITUENTS, VOTERS, HAVE COME TOGETHER IN ORGANIZATIONS LIKE MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING AND SAID, ENOUGH, WE NEED TO HAVE MANDATES TO CONTROL

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THIS PROLIFERATION OF DRINKING AND DRIVING. AND SO LEGISLATORS SIT DOWN AND TIGHTEN UP LAWS THAT HAVE TO DO WITH LEVELS OF ALCOHOL AND PROVIDE FUNDING FOR REHAB FACILITIES AND FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THIS. THIS FITS INTO THAT SAME CATEGORY. TRUE, WE'RE NOT DEALING WITH MEASLES OR INFLUENZA OUTBREAKS. BUT WE ARE DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO WHEN THEY COME DOWN WITH THIS ILLNESS, AT GREAT EXPENSE TO SOCIETY BECAUSE OF THE COST ASSOCIATED WITH IT AND AT GREAT EXPENSE IN TERMS OF PAIN AND SUFFERING TO FAMILIES AND TO THEM THEMSELVES, THIS IS A PREVENTABLE DISEASE. THIS IS...WE'RE FACED WITH A DRINKING-AND-DRIVING SCENARIO HERE. IT'S INTERESTING, THIS HAPPENS AT A TIME WHEN THIS VERY DEBATE IS HAPPENING ON THOSE FOLKS WHO MAINTAIN THEIR RIGHT NOT TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN IMMUNIZED AGAINST CHILDHOOD DISEASES. CLEARLY, THAT'S BEEN BROUGHT UP OFTEN IN THIS DISCUSSION. I'M IN SUPPORT OF LB18. I AM NOT IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE IT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR GLOOR: I THINK IT'S A GOOD BILL, AND I WOULD ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE BILL BY VOTING WHEN WE GET TO IT FOR CLOTURE. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GLOOR. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I HEARD A STATEMENT ON THE FLOOR JUST A MOMENT AGO THAT, WHEN IT COMES TO THESE ISSUES, WE NEED TO PLACE OUR TRUST IN THE MEDICAL PEOPLE. WELL, COLLEAGUES, THERE ARE 49 OF US HERE, 49 UNIQUE PERSONALITIES AND IDEAS, SENT TO THIS BODY BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. GRANTED, WE DO NOT ALL HAVE EQUAL KNOWLEDGE IN EQUAL THINGS. BUT SAYING THAT WE SHOULD ONLY LISTEN TO THE MEDICAL PEOPLE ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE LIKE SAYING WE SHOULD ONLY LISTEN TO SENATOR SCHNOOR AND SENATOR SCHILZ WHEN IT COMES TO DISCUSSING LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION. WE'RE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, I THINK, A LOT HERE IN A FEW WEEKS. WE'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE TO EDUCATE OURSELVES A LITTLE BIT AND SEE WHERE THAT DEBATE TAKES US. BUT I'M NOT GOING TO AT THAT TIME TURN THAT DECISION OVER TO ONLY PEOPLE THAT RAISE LIVESTOCK. I RAISE A LITTLE LIVESTOCK MYSELF, BUT IT...I DON'T PURPORT TO TELL PEOPLE THAT DON'T HOW TO VOTE OR THAT THEY SHOULD TOTALLY TRUST THE LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS TO ANSWER TO THIS. WE ALL HAVE A JOB TO DO HERE: INFORM YOURSELF TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY; CONSULT WITH THE PEOPLE THAT SENT YOU HERE; SEE WHAT

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THEY THINK; VOTE AS YOU FEEL YOU MUST OR AS YOU FEEL YOU SHOULD. THE IDEA THAT WE RELINQUISH ANY AUTHORITY TO ANY GIVEN PROFESSION IN HERE IS MISTAKEN AND WRONG. AGAIN, THERE ARE 49 DIFFERENT DECISIONS TO BE REACHED IN HERE. MAKE THEM THE WAY YOU FEEL THEY SHOULD BE MADE, NOT THE WAY SOMEONE ELSE THINKS THEY SHOULD BE MADE JUST BECAUSE THEY HAPPEN TO WORK IN THAT FIELD. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR BLOOMFIELD. SENATOR HILKEMANN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR HILKEMANN: THANK YOU, MR. SPEAKER. JUST A COUPLE OF THINGS I WANT TO BRING UP ON...ABOUT THIS CONVERSATION. AND I'M NOT IN SUPPORT OF THE AMENDMENT. YESTERDAY, WE...I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF HAVING DR. GIL HEAD HERE AS DOCTOR OF THE DAY. I'VE KNOWN DR. HEAD FOR ABOUT AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN PRACTICING, AND HE AND I HAD A CONVERSATION BACK THERE REGARDING THIS. AND HE AND I ARE BOTH...WE HATE GOVERNMENT MANDATES. BUT HE SAID, YOU KNOW, IF PEOPLE COULD SEE THE DEVASTATION THAT OCCURS WHEN PEOPLE GET THE MENINGEAL DISEASE, THIS WOULD NOT BE AN ARGUMENT AND WE NEED TO MANDATE THIS PARTICULAR PROCESS. SO THIS, WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT MUMPS AND MEASLES AS FAR AS SEVERE. THIS IS A LIFE THREATENING...NOT THAT THOSE OTHER DISEASES WE SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO VACCINATE. BUT THIS IS...WHEN YOU GET THIS DISEASE, IT IS LIFE ALTERING AND DEVASTATING AND WE NEED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PREVENT IT. THE OTHER THING THAT WAS SAID HERE DURING THE CONVERSATION YESTERDAY WAS...IS THAT THE HIGH COST OF THIS AND THAT PEOPLE HAVE HIGH DEDUCTIBLES TO PAY AND THINGS OF THIS SORT AND THERE WAS A FEW THINGS...THERE WAS ACTUALLY LIKE...THEY WERE SAYING THAT DOCTORS ADD ON \$100 TO THIS. THAT'S JUST NOT TRUE. AND SO SINCE WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE CDC, I JUST HAD THE PAGES PASS OUT A...FROM THE CDC'S DEFINING AND PAYING FOR VACCINES, YOU WILL NOTE THAT MOST PRIVATE INSURANCES MUST COVER THE VACCINES WITHOUT CHARGING A COPAY OR COINSURANCE IF THEY'RE PROVIDED BY IN-NETWORK-TYPE PROVIDERS. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD THIS, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF AGENT...THERE ARE FEDERAL PROGRAMS THAT PEOPLE CAN APPLY FOR TO GET THE VACCINATION. WE HAVE OUR PUBLIC HEALTH ENTITIES. SO REALLY, WHAT I'M COMING UP HERE OF MORE...IS MORE OF A CLARIFICATION OF A COUPLE OF THE ARGUMENTS THAT WERE DONE YESTERDAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR HILKEMANN. SENATOR HUGHES, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

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SENATOR HUGHES: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. WE'VE HAD A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT MANDATES AND I GUESS I WANTED TO CLARIFY A LITTLE BIT THE MANDATE THAT'S IN MY BILL DEALING WITH ABSTRACTERS. FOR THOSE OF YOU, A LITTLE BACKGROUND: AN ABTRACTER IS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO GOES THROUGH THE RECORDS ON REAL ESTATE. IF YOU'RE GOING BUY A HOUSE, THEY GO BACK AND MAKE SURE THAT A CLEAN TITLE CAN BE PROVIDED FOR THAT PROPERTY. AS A FARMER, I'VE PURCHASED MANY PIECES OF REAL ESTATE. AND IT'S A GOOD IDEA THAT YOU HAVE AN EXPERT IN THAT FIELD GO AND CHECK THE RECORDS TO MAKE SURE THERE'S NOT A LIEN OR SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN MISSED AND NOT PAID SO WHEN YOU BUY THAT HOUSE OR THAT PIECE OF PROPERTY, YOU HAVE A CLEAR TITLE TO THAT, A CLEAR, MARKETABLE TITLE, SO WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED WITH THAT PROPERTY, YOU CAN SELL IT WITHOUT AN ENCUMBRANCE. THE BILL THAT I HAVE DEALING WITH ABSTRACTERS ONLY CHANGES THE PROVISION THAT, RATHER THAN PRINTING A DIRECTORY OF THE ABSTRACTORS, IT MAKES IT ALLOWABLE TO BE ON-LINE. IT SAVES THE STATE MONEY BY NOT PRINTING ON PAPER AND MAKES IT MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC BY HAVING IT ON-LINE. THE DISCUSSION, IF YOU LISTENED TO MY TESTIMONY YESTERDAY, I DID TALK ABOUT THE NEED FOR MANDATES. I DID BRING UP SPEED LIMITS. YOU KNOW, WE AS HUMANS ARE NOT...DON'T ALL MAKE THE SAME DECISIONS. YOU KNOW, WE NEED RULES. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE GOVERNMENT. YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHY WE'RE IN THIS BODY. YOU KNOW, WE NEED TO HAVE RULES THAT GOVERN OUR SOCIETY. YOU KNOW, NOT ALL OF US WANT TO PLAY BY THE SAME RULES BUT, YET, WE HAVE TO HAVE THOSE RULES IN ORDER FOR OUR SOCIETY TO FUNCTION PROPERLY, FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL OF US AND ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE DISADVANTAGED. ALMOST EVERYTHING WE DO IN THIS BODY IS A MANDATE. THE TAXES WE PASS--YOU KNOW, PROPERTY TAXES, SALES TAX INCREASES, THOSE TYPES OF THINGS--THOSE ARE MANDATES ON THE REVENUE FROM THE WAGES THAT WE EARN IN OUR LIVING. DOES ANYBODY LIKE THOSE TAXES? THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE THAT FEEL THEY'RE NOT PAYING ENOUGH TAXES. I THINK THERE'S A MAJORITY OF PEOPLE THAT FEEL THEY'RE PAYING TOO MANY TAXES. BUT IT'S THE PRICE THAT WE PAY TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY. AND PART OF THE REASON WHY I WANTED TO COME HERE IS NOT THAT I DISAGREE WITH PAYING TAXES. I JUST WANTED TO HAVE A VOICE ON HOW THOSE DOLLARS WERE SPENT. YOU KNOW, THAT'S PART OF THE REASON WHY I CAME HERE. THE OTHER REASON WE ARE HERE IS BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN SENT HERE BY OUR DISTRICTS. YOU KNOW, THE 44 (SIC) DISTRICTS, THERE'S ABOUT 36,000-37,000. YOU KNOW, ROUGHLY, EVERYBODY REPRESENTS THE SAME AMOUNT OF PEOPLE. BUT I'M HERE TO BE THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHWEST NEBRASKA IN THIS BODY. NOW DOES EVERYBODY IN THE 44th DISTRICT AGREE WITH ME? NO,

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ABSOLUTELY NOT. THERE'S NO WAY. BUT OUR GOVERNMENT IS ASSIGNED...WE ARE A REPRESENTATIVE REPUBLIC. WE ARE NOT A DEMOCRACY. IF WE HAD A DEMOCRACY, YOU KNOW, MOB RULE WOULD BE THE LAW OF THE DAY. BUT FORTUNATELY, OUR FOUNDING FATHERS DID NOT GIVE US THAT. THEY GAVE US A REPRESENTATIVE REPUBLIC WHERE THEY...THE POPULACE VOTES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO COME MAKE THE RULES, TO STUDY THE ISSUE AND MAKE THE BEST DECISION THEY CAN FOR THE BODY. I HAD A CONFERENCE CALL THIS MORNING BACK IN MY DISTRICT AND THIS ISSUE CAME UP... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR HUGHES: ...BECAUSE THIS WAS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT--THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN...MR. PRESIDENT--THIS WAS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE TALKED ABOUT. AND ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS ON THE CONFERENCE CALL SAID HER GRANDSON HAD THIS AT 18 YEARS OLD AND SHE THOUGHT THAT IT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BUT DID NOT THINK THAT IT SHOULD BE MANDATED. AND THAT'S, YOU KNOW, THAT'S MY POSITION. WE ALL HAVE LEVELS OF TOLERANCE FOR THE AMOUNT OF FREEDOM THAT WE'RE WILLING TO GIVE UP. YOU KNOW, I'M PERFECTLY FINE WITH THE LEVEL OF FREEDOM THAT I HAVE ON THE INTERSTATE, THAT I CAN DRIVE 75 MILES AN HOUR, THAT I CAN DRIVE 60 OR 65 MILES AN HOUR ON THE TWO-LANE STATE HIGHWAYS THAT I TRAVEL TO GET BACK AND FORTH, HOME. THERE ARE TIMES THAT I WOULD...I'M IN A HURRY. I WOULD LIKE TO GO A LOT FASTER. BUT THAT'S, YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE LAW. YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE PRICE I'M WILLING TO PAY TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY. THIS... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR HUGHES: THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR HUGHES. MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT. SENATOR GROENE, I UNDERSTAND FROM OUR CONVERSATION THAT AT THIS TIME YOU'RE REQUESTING TO WITHDRAW AM300 AND OFFER AS A SUBSTITUTE, THEREFORE, AM143. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: PAT, THAT'S WHAT I WISH TO DO. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? SEEING NONE, SO ORDERED. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR GROENE WOULD MOVE TO AMEND WITH

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AM143. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 477.) [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE, WELCOME TO OPEN ON AM143. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I'VE TALKED TO SENATOR KRIST AND WE HAVE COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING--IT'S CALLED COMPROMISE, I BELIEVE--THAT IT STILL WILL EMPHASIZE THE URGENCY OF MENINGITIS BUT IT WILL ALSO GIVE THOSE WHO WISH TO EDUCATE THEMSELVES AND MAKE THEIR OWN FAMILY DECISIONS WILL BE ABLE TO DO SO. AND THAT IS AM143. IT READS AS THUS. I WILL READ EXISTING STATUTE: IMMUNIZATION SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED FOR A STUDENT ENROLLED IN ANY SCHOOL IN THIS STATE IF HE OR SHE SUBMITS TO THE SUBMITTING...ADMITTING OFFICIAL EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING--THIS IS EXISTING LAW--A STATEMENT SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR AN ADVANCED-PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE PRACTICING UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS OR HER RESPECTIVE CERTIFICATION ACT STATING THAT, IN THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER'S OPINION, THE IMMUNIZATION REQUIRED WOULD BE INJURIOUS TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE STUDENT OR ANY MEMBER OF THE STUDENT'S FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD; OR AN AFFIDAVIT SIGNED BY THE STUDENT OR, IF HE OR SHE IS A MINOR, BY A LEGALLY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STUDENT STATING THAT THE IMMUNIZATION CONFLICTS WITH TENETS AND PRACTICES OF A RECOGNIZED RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION OF WHICH THE STUDENT IS AN ADHERENT OR MEMBER...THAT IMMUNIZATION CONFLICTS WITH THE PERSONAL AND SINCERELY FOLLOWED RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF THE STUDENT. WHAT THIS AMENDMENT WILL DO WILL INJECT, "CONFLICTS WITH THE PERSONAL AND SINCERELY FOLLOWED RELIGIOUS" AND THEN ADDS "OR PHILOSOPHICAL BELIEFS OF THE STUDENT." WHAT THIS DOES...THIS DOESN'T MAKE ADHERENCE OF ANY RELIGION LIARS, THAT IF THEY BELIEVE A CERTAIN VACCINE OR PRACTICE IS NOT GOOD FOR THEIR CHILDREN, THEY DON'T HAVE TO LIE THAT THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS STATE THAT. THEY DON'T HAVE TO TWIST A DOCTOR'S ARM TO SIGN A FORM FOR THEM. WHAT THIS DOES IS PHILOSOPHICALLY...IT'S WHAT YOUR COMMONLY HELD BELIEFS ARE. MANY PARENTS BELIEVE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT A MANDATE OF IMMUNIZING YOUR CHILD AT 16 IS TOO EARLY, BECAUSE THE MAJOR TIME TO DO THAT IS WHAT...LIKE SENATOR EBKE SAID, IS WHEN YOU'RE IN COLLEGE. THIS ALLOWS THEM TO SAY, PHILOSOPHICALLY, MY BELIEF IS I WANT TO IMMUNIZE MY CHILD AT 18. THAT HELPS. THAT ALLOWS FOR FREEDOM TO TAKE PLACE. THAT ALLOWS FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS TO STILL PUSH HARD TO EDUCATE WHEN THEY TALK TO INDIVIDUALS. AND I STAND IN FAVOR OF THIS AMENDMENT. AND IF IT PASSES, I WILL SUPPORT IT, AS SENATOR KRIST...WELL, I'LL LET HIM SPEAK FOR HIMSELF. I TOLD HIM I WOULDN'T PUT...MAKE DECISIONS FOR HIM, SO I WON'T START DOING IT NOW. BUT

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ANYWAY, THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING WITH THIS. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY ONE THING TO A PREVIOUS SENATOR'S COMMENTS. WE DID NOT GOOGLE THE FACTS WE SHARED WITH YOU ON MENINGITIS. WE DID NOT GOOGLE IT AND TAKE IT OFF OF SOME OBSCURE WEB SITE. WE WENT DIRECTLY TO THE CDC, THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. WE TOOK THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AND WE DIGESTED THEM AND WE SHARED THEM WITH YOU. NOBODY HERE DISPUTED ANYTHING WE SAID. THEY JUST SAID WE WEREN'T SMART ENOUGH TO FIGURE IT OUT OURSELVES. I BELIEVE WE ARE. I BELIEVE WE ARE. JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T TAKE A FIELD OF STUDY, THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOUR EDUCATION WASN'T WELL DONE AND THAT YOU LEARNED HOW TO HAVE A GOOD VOCABULARY AND TO UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU CAN...WHAT YOU READ. BUT...AND THAT'S ENOUGH SAID ON THAT. BUT EVERYBODY IN THIS ROOM KNOWS ALL THEY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT MENINGITIS NOW. AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. SO I WILL STAND DOWN AND LET SENATOR KRIST SPEAK IF HE WISHES. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GROENE. YOU'VE HEARD THE OPENING ON AM143. DEBATE IS NOW OPEN ON THE AMENDMENT. SENATOR KRIST, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. AND GOOD MORNING AGAIN, COLLEAGUES AND NEBRASKA. SENATOR GROENE AND I HAVE INDEED SPOKEN AND HE IS ADDING THE WORD "PHILOSOPHICAL" TO THE ALREADY-IN-STATUTE "IMMUNIZATIONS; WHEN NOT REQUIRED" SECTION IN 79-221. SO TO CALM EVERYONE'S CONCERNS, WE CURRENTLY IN STATUTE--CURRENTLY IN STATUTE--HAVE AN "IMMUNIZATION; WHEN NOT REQUIRED" SECTION IN 79-221. IMMUNIZATION SHALL NOT REQUIRED FOR A STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN ANY SCHOOL IN THIS STATE IF HE OR SHE SUBMITS TO THE ADMITTING OFFICIAL EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING: A STATEMENT SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR AN ADVANCED-PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE PRACTICING UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS OR HER RESPECTIVE CERTIFICATION ACT STATING THAT, IN THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER'S OPINION, THE IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED WOULD BE INJURIOUS TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE STUDENT OR ANY MEMBER OF THE STUDENT'S FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD; OR (2) AN AFFIDAVIT SIGNED BY THE STUDENT OR, IF HE OR SHE IS A MINOR, BY A LEGALLY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STUDENT STATING THAT THE IMMUNIZATION CONFLICTS WITH THE TENETS AND PRACTICES OF RECOGNIZED RELIGIOUS DOMINATION (SIC) OF WHICH THE STUDENT IS AN ADHERENT MEMBER OF...THAT THE IMMUNIZATION CONFLICTS WITH THE PERSONAL AND SINCERELY FOLLOWED RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF THE STUDENT. THE ONLY ADDITION TO THIS STATUTE, THE ONLY CHANGE, IS THE WORD "PHILOSOPHICAL." I WOULD REMIND YOU THAT IN ORDER TO HAVE A

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RELIGIOUS CONFLICT, IF YOU ARE AN ATHEIST, IT WOULD BE A LITTLE DIFFICULT. IF YOU WANT TO OPT OUT OF AN IMMUNIZATION BECAUSE THE DOCTOR, NURSE PRACTITIONER...I'M SORRY, PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT OR ADVANCED-PRACTICE NURSE HAS ADVISED YOU NOT TO, YOU CAN ALREADY DO THAT. THE WORD "PHILOSOPHICAL" IS THE ONLY CHANGE. I WOULD ALSO REMIND YOU THAT SENATOR GROENE HAS ASSURED ME THAT, IF AM143 BECOMES PART OF LB18, HE WILL WITHDRAW THE REST OF YOUR AMENDMENTS AND WE CAN GET ON WITH THE NEXT THING ON THE SCHEDULE. I WOULD ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT. LET ME SAY THAT AGAIN. I...THIS IS A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT. I WOULD ASK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF AM143 AND THEN THE UNDERLYING LB18. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR CLERK (SIC)...KRIST, SORRY. (VISITORS INTRODUCED.) SENATOR SULLIVAN, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. AND I CERTAINLY APPRECIATE THE PROCESS WE'RE INVOLVED IN RIGHT NOW, BECAUSE SO MUCH OF WHAT WE DO IN HERE IS THE ART OF COMPROMISE AND TRYING TO LOOK AT ALL THE DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS OF A DECISION AND POLICY WE'RE TRYING TO PUT IN PLACE. BUT I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. AND I GUESS THE FIRST ONE I WOULD ASK OF...THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE ENGAGED IN CONVERSATIONS. BUT I'LL START WITH SENATOR KRIST, IF HE WOULDN'T MIND, IF HE WOULD YIELD FOR A QUESTION. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR KRIST, WOULD YOU YIELD? [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: ABSOLUTELY. [LB18]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: THANK YOU, SENATOR KRIST. YOU'RE ADDING THE WORD "PHILOSOPHICAL." IS...OR SENATOR GROENE IS. BUT YOU MENTIONED THAT THERE ARE OTHER STATES THAT HAVE THIS TERM IN THERE. HOW MANY STATES? AND DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THESE OTHER STATES? [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: YES, I DO. THERE ARE SOME OTHER STATES THAT HAVE AN OPT-OUT PROVISION. BETTER THAN HALF OF THE STATES IN THE UNITED STATES, I THINK, IN THE 20 NUMBER; 22-23, I BELIEVE, HAVE OPT-OUT PROVISIONS. SOME OF THEM DO NOT HAVE THAT FIRST STATEMENT IN THERE ABOUT STATEMENT SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT, ETCETERA. THEY ONLY INCLUDE THE WORD "MEDICAL." SO THERE'S...SOME OF THEM JUST SAY IMMUNIZATION CONFLICTS OF A PERSONAL, SINCERELY FOLLOWED RELIGIOUS, MEDICAL, OR PHILOSOPHICAL, AND THEY DON'T

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DEFINE IT ANY FURTHER THAN THAT. SOME OF THEM HAVE...THERE ARE SOME STATES THAT HAVE OPT-OUT PROVISIONS THAT ARE STRICTLY MEDICAL. IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO DO IT. I THINK WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE IS THE FIRST ONE, WHICH IS ALREADY IN STATUTE, IS A MEDICALLY CERTIFIED EXEMPTION THAT IT'S INJURIOUS TO THE PERSON IF THEY TAKE IT. THE SECOND PART OF IT IS EITHER PHILOSOPHICAL OR RELIGIOUS. SENATOR, I DON'T THINK THIS IS GOING TOO FAR IN TERMS OF COMING TO A COMPROMISE HERE. I KNOW YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT THE IMMUNIZATION, AS AM I, AND I DO AGREE THAT SENATOR GROENE'S CONCERN WITH FORCING HIM TO NOT TELL THE TRUTH IN ORDER TO EXEMPT, IF THE DOCTOR WOULDN'T DO IT, HAS SOME LEGITIMACY. SO I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU WOULD SUPPORT THIS. [LB18]

SENATOR SULLIVAN: THANK YOU, SENATOR KRIST. AND I'M TRYING TO. IT'S JUST THAT IT RAISES A SOMEWHAT OF A RED FLAG WITH ME IN THAT IT DOES OPEN IT UP TO GIVE THIS OPTION FOR ALL THE IMMUNIZATIONS AND VACCINATIONS THAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE, AND THOSE ARE TRIED AND TRUE. YOU...WE CAN DEBATE ALL WE WANT ABOUT THE MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND THE VACCINATION. BUT THE OTHER ONES HAVE BEEN IN PLACE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS AND HAVE PROVEN THAT WE HAVE WON THE WAR IN THOSE AREAS. AND WOULD THIS POTENTIALLY OPEN UP THOSE OTHER ONES TO BE LESS EFFECTIVE? SO I HOPE WE CAN HAVE A LITTLE MORE DISCUSSION ON THIS TO EASE MY MIND. BUT AT THIS POINT, I HAVEN'T QUITE DECIDED IF I WANT TO SUPPORT THE AMENDMENT. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATORS SULLIVAN AND KRIST. SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, SENATOR SULLIVAN, IN MY OPINION, IS EXACTLY RIGHT. SOMETIMES WE CAN BECOME SO EAGER TO DO SOMETHING ON A BILL THAT WE MESS UP AN ENTIRE SYSTEM THAT HAS BEEN PUT IN PLACE PURSUANT TO LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT THE HEALTH NOT ONLY OF THE CHILD BUT THOSE WITH WHOM THE CHILD MAY COME IN CONTACT. IF YOU HAVE A DISEASE THAT RARELY OCCURS, THE STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO PROTECT A CHILD WHO MAY GET THAT DISEASE. HERE'S THE NOTION. THERE IS A LEGAL TERM: IN LOCO PARENTIS. IT MEANS THAT, UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, SOMEBODY OR SOME ENTITY STANDS IN THE PLACE OF THE PARENT. BUT I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH IT THE WAY SOMEBODY ON THE STREET MIGHT UNDERSTAND THE TERM. IT MEANS, IF THE PARENTS ARE "LOCO," THEN SOMEBODY HAS TO STEP IN, WHO IS SANE, AND DO WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR THAT CHILD. IF THIS AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, I WILL TRY TO KILL THE BILL MYSELF. I WOULD RATHER THAT WE GO AHEAD WITH THE

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BILL. I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING ON IT. BUT WHAT SENATOR GROENE HAS ALSO DONE IS TO BRING BEFORE US A PORTION OF STATUTE THAT I THINK IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL, THE EXISTING LAW. WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT RELIGION AND YOU USE THE WORD "RECOGNIZED," WHO RECOGNIZES IT? THE GOVERNMENT? THERE CAN BE NO RELIGIOUS TEST IMPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR ANYTHING. THAT'S WHY, IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR, THEY TALK ABOUT SINCERELY HELD BELIEFS BUT NOT A RECOGNIZED RELIGION. CATHOLIC? BAPTIST? METHODIST? EPISCOPALIAN? BUDDHIST? HINDU? VOODOO? THAT WORD SHOULD BE STRICKEN FROM THE STATUTE. AND SINCE AN AMENDMENT IS BEFORE US WHERE THAT LANGUAGE IS BROUGHT, I'M GOING TO OFFER AN AMENDMENT TO STRIKE IT. I HAVE NO RELIGIOUS AX TO GRIND. MY AX IS LAYING AT THE ROOT OF EVERY RELIGIOUS TREE. AND I WOULD HEW IT DOWN AND CAST IT INTO THE FIRE, PRAISE THE LORD, WHOEVER YOUR LORD HAPPENS TO BE. THE THING THAT I CANNOT COMPREHEND ABOUT PEOPLE WHO MAKE SUCH AN ISSUE OUT OF INJECTING RELIGION INTO THE PUBLIC LIFE OF THE STATE: THEY THEMSELVES IGNORE THE KIND OF POINT THAT I'M MAKING. IF YOU BELONG TO A RELIGION THAT IS CONSIDERED DOMINANT OR RESPECTABLE, THEN YOU'RE COVERED. BUT YOU DON'T LOOK AT THE OTHER ONES THAT CERTAIN RELIGIONS MIGHT HAVE CONTEMPT FOR. WHEN IT COMES TO THE ORGANIZATION OF RELIGION, I HAVE EQUAL CONTEMPT FOR ALL OF THEM. BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO ALLOW IN CERTAIN LIMITED AREAS A RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION, DON'T SAY "RECOGNIZED." SO I'M GOING TO ASK SENATOR GROENE A QUESTION. AND WHEN I GET THROUGH, HE MAY BE GROANING IN THE SPIRIT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE, WOULD... [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: HE MAY BE THE "GROANER," AND I WILL BE THE "GROANEE." SENATOR... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE...WILL YOU YIELD, SENATOR GROENE? [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: SENATOR GROENE, IN THE CURRENT LAW, AND IT'S... [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: I YIELD. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...LAID OUT IN YOUR AMENDMENT, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY RECOGNIZED RELIGION? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: AND WHO IS TO RECOGNIZE THAT RELIGION IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE VALID? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: SENATOR CHAMBERS, THE PART ABOUT RELIGIOUS BELIEFS HAS ALREADY BEEN IN LAW FOR YEARS. WHAT I'M ADDING IS THE WORD "PHILOSOPHICAL." LET'S SAY YOU'RE AN ATHEIST AND YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE A RELIGION. YOU HAD NO OPT-OUT. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M ASKING YOU. I'M ASKING YOU ABOUT THE CURRENT LAW. IT SAYS RECOGNIZED RELIGION. THAT DIDN'T JUMP OUT AND BE A RED FLAG FOR YOU? [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: YES. YES, IT DID. THAT'S WHY...ONE OF THE REASONS I WANTED "PHILOSOPHICAL," BECAUSE YOU WALK IN THERE AND SAY, I WORSHIP A TREE, AND IT'S SOME CERTAIN TREE IN MEMORIAL PARK IN OMAHA, THEY'RE GOING TO SAY, NO, YOU CAN'T OPT OUT, BECAUSE THAT'S NOT A RECOGNIZABLE RELIGION. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: HERE...NO. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: BUT I'M NOT GOING TO DEBATE THAT PERSON IF HE BELIEVES THAT TREE IS HIS GOD. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: NO. NO. HERE'S WHAT I'M SAYING, WHY DO YOU NOT OBJECT TO THE TERM "RECOGNIZED" IN THE STATUTE, BECAUSE IT MEANS SOMEBODY IS IN A POSITION TO SAY YOUR RELIGION IS NOT RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS. SENATOR SCHUMACHER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE BODY. I WASN'T GOING TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS PARTICULAR DISCUSSION. BUT NOW THAT IT'S GOTTEN BROADENED OUT A LITTLE BIT, I THINK WE NEED TO TAKE A BIGGER LOOK AT WHAT WE ARE DEALING WITH WHEN WE'RE DEALING WITH MODERN MEDICINE. ONCE BEEN SAID, AND THIS WILL DATE ME A LITTLE BIT, BUT THAT THERE ARE THREE PHASES OF MEDICINE: (1) THE DR. ADAMS OF GUNSMOKE PHASE WHERE YOU BITE ON A BULLET AND GRIN AND

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BEAR IT AND THEN YOU CHECK OUT; THE MARCUS WELBY PHASE OF BIG HEART/LUNG MACHINES, IRON LUNGS, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT THE STATE OF MEDICINE STILL TODAY WHERE LOTS OF EXPENSIVE GIZMOS ARE IN PLACE THAT ARE TERRIBLY, TERRIBLY DIFFICULT FOR SOCIETY TO PAY FOR, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF A TIME WHEN WE'RE GOING TO HAVE INCREASING BURDEN AND DEMAND ON THOSE FACILITIES BY LOTS AND LOTS OF BABY BOOMERS AS THEY AGE. AND FINALLY, THERE'S A STAGE OF MEDICINE THAT'S BEST TYPIFIED BY DR. McCOY OF STAR TREK, CHEAP AND EFFICIENT PREVENTIONS AND CURES. WHEN WE START TALKING ABOUT VACCINATION, WE KNOW THAT ONE OF THE ONLY WAYS THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO KEEP PACE AND PROVIDE ADEQUATE MEDICAL SERVICES TO A DEMANDING POPULATION IS IF WE MAKE SOME REAL, SOLID MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS THAT DEAL WITH PREVENTING AND CURING DISEASES AT THE GENETIC LEVEL, AT THE CELLULAR LEVEL, AND THAT, ALL OF THOSE CASES, THERE'S PROBABLY GOING TO BE SOME TINY, TINY DOWNSIDE TO IT FOR SOME PEOPLE. AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE. CAN WE AFFORD THE PRESENT DR. MARCUS WELBY, M.D., TYPE OF MEDICINE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE THAT ARE DEMANDING IT? OR WILL THAT CRIPPLE OUR SOCIETY IN EXPENSE? AND TO THE EXTENT WE CAN DEVELOP CHEAP AND EFFICIENT DR. McCOY CURES AND PREVENTIONS, WE NEED TO SET THE MIND-SET, AS THAT IS THE WAY TO DELIVER THAT CARE. WE CANNOT APPEAL TO FEARS, TO PHILOSOPHIES, TO IGNORANCE, BECAUSE WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD THOSE PARTICULAR THINGS AND DELIVER THE SERVICE AT THE MARCUS WELBY LEVEL. WHAT TONE WE'RE SETTING HERE WHEN WE'RE DEALING WITH A CHEAP AND EFFICIENT PREVENTIVE MECHANISM THAT HAS NO DOWNSIDE, AT LEAST I'VE HEARD, NO DOWNSIDE AT ALL IN ITS ADMINISTRATION, AND HAS UPSIDE IN A SUBSTANTIAL PERCENTAGE, EVEN THOUGH NOT EVERYBODY, UPSIDE...PREVENTION IN SAVING OF COST. THE TONE THAT WE HAVE GOT TO EMBRACE--MODERN TECHNOLOGY, MODERN SCIENCE, VACCINE, AND PREVENTIVE MECHANISMS, EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE NATURAL FEARS TO THE SAME, JUST AS THERE'S NATURAL FEARS FOR TRACE...SITUATIONS OF NUCLEAR RADIATION, WHICH IN REALITY ARE NOT DANGEROUS AT ALL--THAT TONE IS VERY IMPORTANT. AND WE'VE GOT THE LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY TO SET THAT TONE, BECAUSE WE'RE HEADING TOWARD A TIME WHEN PEOPLE ARE GOING TO DEMAND HEALTHCARE FROM US AND THE ONLY WAY WE CAN AFFORD IT IS BY BEING FAIRLY SCIENTIFIC, REALLY SCIENTIFIC, IN DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT WE'RE GOING TO DO IT. AND THAT LEVEL OF SCIENCE MAY INDEED BE ERODED BY APPEALS TO FEAR AND APPEALS TO IRRATIONAL THOUGHT WHEN WE TRY TO ADMINISTER A PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

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SENATOR SCHUMACHER: I THINK THE ORIGINAL EFFORT TO SHOW BOLDNESS WITH RESPECT TO MENINGITIS IS A GOOD IDEA AND THAT WE SHOULD AS A SOCIETY BE PREPARED. EVEN THOUGH IT MAY MEAN THAT INDIVIDUALLY WE HAVE SOME MAYBE EVEN IRRATIONAL QUALMS ABOUT THINGS, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO EMBRACE PREVENTION, EMBRACE THE MODERN TYPE OF CURES TO DEAL WITH VERY EXPENSIVE DISEASES. SO I THINK WE SHOULD JUST STICK WITH LB18 RIGHT NOW. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR SCHUMACHER. MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR CHAMBERS WOULD MOVE TO AMEND SENATOR GROENE'S AMENDMENT WITH FA11. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 510. [LB18])

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE WELCOME TO OPEN ON YOUR AMENDMENT. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, I WAS NOT GOING TO GET INVOLVED IN THE DISCUSSION OF THIS BILL BECAUSE THERE WAS ADEQUATE ARGUMENT COMING FROM BOTH SIDES. AND WHEN THAT IS OCCURRING AND I DON'T HAVE A PARTICULAR REASON TO PUSH FOR ONE THING, THEN I JUST LET IT GO AND THEN CAST MY VOTE. BUT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SENATOR GROENE HAS OFFERED AN AMENDMENT TO EXISTING LAW, I LOOK AT WHAT THE EXISTING LAW IS. AND ON LINE 15, YOU WILL FIND AT THE END OF THAT LINE "RECOGNIZED." AND BEGINNING ON LINE 16 IS THE WORD "RELIGION." IT IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR THE STATE TO CREATE ANY KIND OF RELIGION OF WHICH IT APPROVES, ANY RELIGION OF WHICH IT DISAPPROVES. THAT'S WHY THE DOCUMENT I HAVE THAT DECLARES ME TO BE A MINISTER IS LEGAL AND BINDING IN THE SAME WAY THAT ANY DOCUMENT ISSUED BY AN ORGANIZATION THAT ORDAINS IS LEGAL AND BINDING. AND HERE'S WHAT I MEAN BY BINDING: WHATEVER RECOGNITION IS GRANTED TO ANY RELIGION IS GRANTED TO ALL. SO I PURCHASED MY ORDINATION PAPER. I GAVE THEM \$10. AND THAT PIECE OF PAPER SAYS THAT THIS ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE IN ILLINOIS GIVES ME THIS DOCUMENT THAT SAYS THAT I'M A MINISTER. YOU DON'T HAVE TO DECLARE ANY RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE WHATSOEVER. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE LEGALLY VALID. ANY WEDDING THAT I PERFORM--AND I DON'T CHARGE FOR THEM--IS VALID. I AM AMONG THAT CATEGORY OF PERSONS THE LAW RECOGNIZED AS BEING ALLOWED TO PERFORM WEDDINGS AND THEY ARE VALID. WHEN THE WORK BEING DONE BY THIS ORGANIZATION WAS CHALLENGED, THE CHALLENGE AROSE BECAUSE SOME MONEY OR PROPERTY WAS BEING LEFT TO HEIRS AND A WEDDING HAD BEEN PERFORMED BY SOMEBODY WHO WOULD HAVE BEEN IN

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THE WAY OF SOME GREEDY PERSON GETTING SOMETHING OR OTHER. AND THE ARGUMENT WAS THAT THE MARRIAGE WAS INVALID BECAUSE THE ONE WHO PERFORMED IT WAS NOT AUTHORIZED, BECAUSE THE ONE WHO PERFORMED IT HAD ONE OF THESE DOCUMENTS THAT I PURCHASED FOR \$10. THE COURT SAID, ANY ENTITY THAT ORDAINS WILL HAVE ITS ORDINATION ACCEPTED BECAUSE THE STATE IS NOT GOING TO GO BEHIND ANY RELIGION AND DETERMINE WHAT IS VALID AS A RELIGION AND WHAT IS NOT. IF YOU HAVE WHAT YOU CALL A RELIGION THAT TELLS YOU TO KILL PEOPLE, YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT RELIGION THERE, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT THE LAW IS EMPOWERED TO PREVENT. BUT THEY CANNOT PREVENT YOU FROM BELONGING TO IT. YOU SIMPLY CANNOT EXERCISE THE PREROGATIVES YOU SAY YOUR SO-CALLED RELIGION ALLOWS YOU TO HAVE. SO BY NOT GOING BEHIND THAT ORDINATION, THE COURT SAID ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PROCLAIM YOURSELF TO BE A RELIGION. YOU MIGHT HAVE TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE OTHER PERSON, BUT THAT IS ALL IT TAKES. THIS LANGUAGE IN THE CURRENT LAW THAT REFERS TO A RECOGNIZED RELIGION IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL BECAUSE THE ONE DOING THE RECOGNIZING WOULD BE THE STATE. THE STATE CANNOT HAVE A RELIGIOUS TEST FOR HOLDING ANY EMPLOYMENT OR ANY OFFICE UNDER THE STATE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND WHATEVER ELSE THE LANGUAGE SAYS. IT'S IRONIC THAT I WHO HAVE NO RELIGION WHATSOEVER HAS TO STAND ON THIS FLOOR TO ENSURE THE EQUALITY OF ALL RELIGIONS. AND I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THEM. BUT IT SHOWS HOW NARROW-MINDED AND SELF-CENTERED AND PAROCHIAL...AND I'M NOT REFERRING TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS OR ANYTHING, BUT THAT SMALLNESS RELIGIOUS PEOPLE ARE PREY TO, P-R-E-Y. IF YOURS IS OKAY, THEN YOU DON'T CARE IF SOMEBODY ELSE'S IS NOT. WHICH ONE OF YOU, WHATEVER YOU BELIEVE, WOULD WANT TO HAVE TO GET A CERTIFICATION FROM THE STATE THAT YOUR RELIGION IS A RELIGION? BAPTISTS, WHO DON'T LIKE METHODISTS, WHO DON'T LIKE EPISCOPALIANS, WHO DON'T LIKE CATHOLICS, WHO DON'T LIKE HOLY ROLLERS, WHO DON'T LIKE FUNDAMENTALISTS, WHO DON'T LIKE TAOISTS, WHO DON'T LIKE HINDUS, OR ANYBODY OTHER THAN THAT SMALL GROUP TO WHICH THEY BELONG? WHAT I BELIEVE ABOUT THE LAW IS, IF IT'S THERE, IT HAS TO APPLY EQUALLY TO EVERYBODY. I SUED GOD TO SHOW THAT THE DOORS OF THE COURTHOUSE MUST BE OPEN TO ANY- AND EVERYBODY, AS THE CONSTITUTION SAYS SHOULD BE THE CASE. OTHER PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THE NERVE, IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES. BUT EITHER THE CONSTITUTION MEANS WHAT IT SAYS OR IT DOESN'T. AND IF IT MEANS WHAT IT SAYS, I WANT TO SEE THAT IT MEANS IT FOR EVERYBODY BECAUSE--AND SENATOR BLOOMFIELD GETS TIRED OF THIS--WHERE THE CONSTITUTION IS INVOLVED, IT EXISTS BY SHOWING THAT IT DOES NOT APPLY TO ME. AND I'VE GOT PEOPLE ON THIS FLOOR NOW WHO WANT TO SUPPRESS MY RIGHT TO VOTE. AND IT'S THEIR CONSTITUTION AND THEY WANT TO APPEAL TO IT WHEN IT ALLOWS THEM TO

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DO WHAT THEY WANT TO DO. BUT THEN THEY PERVERT AND DISTORT IT TO PREVENT ME AND MINE FROM DOING WHAT WE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO. SO I HAVE AGAIN A FOOT IN ONE WORLD AND A FOOT IN THE OTHER. AND I'M DISTURBED THAT THERE CAN BE ALL OF THIS TALK OF RELIGION AND SOMETHING AS CONSEQUENTIAL AS THIS WOULD BE OVERLOOKED. IT SHOWS THAT RELIGION DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING TO THE PEOPLE IN HERE. THEY SAY IT DOES. BUT WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO THE NUTS AND BOLTS, IT HAS NO IMPACT ON THEM WHATSOEVER. IT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THE PULL OF A POLITICAL PARTY. THE POLITICAL PEOPLE SAID, WE DON'T WANT YOU TO MAKE US TELL WHO CONTRIBUTES TO OUR CAMPAIGNS, SO WE'VE CREATED A SYSTEM BY WHICH WE CAN EVADE THE NECESSITY OF DISCLOSURE. AND POLITICIANS WILL JUMP ON THAT. AND I WANT SOMEBODY TO STAND ON THIS FLOOR AND EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT A RECOGNIZED RELIGION IS AND WHO DOES THE RECOGNIZING. MR. PRESIDENT, I DIDN'T EVER KNOW THAT I'D GET THIS INDIGNANT IN THIS LEGISLATURE TRYING TO DEFEND THE RIGHT OF RELIGIOUS PEOPLE TO BE RELIGIOUS WITHOUT THE STATE'S APPROVAL. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS. SENATOR BLOOMFIELD, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. WE ALL KNOW WHAT COMPROMISE IS. WE SEE COMPROMISE IN THIS AGREEMENT THAT'S BEEN REACHED. COMPROMISE IN THIS CASE MAKES WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE A BAD IDEA A LITTLE MORE PALATABLE. I WILL BE SUPPORTING SENATOR GROENE'S AMENDMENT. IT DOES NOT, HOWEVER, IN MY CASE, GET ME TO WHERE I'M COMFORTABLE WITH IT. WE ARE STILL HAVING THE GOVERNMENT MANDATE SOMETHING THAT THE PARENTS OR THE INDIVIDUAL HAS TO SAY, NO, I DON'T WANT THAT, INSTEAD OF JUST LETTING THE PARENT OR INDIVIDUAL MAKE THAT DECISION. SO WHILE I WILL BE VOTING FOR THE GROENE AMENDMENT, I WILL NOT BE VOTING FOR LB18. I HADN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO SENATOR KRIST OR TO SENATOR GROENE ABOUT THIS, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT WILL COME AS A HUGE SURPRISE TO EITHER ONE OF THEM. I SEE SENATOR SMITH IS TALKING TO SENATOR CHAMBERS BACK THERE RIGHT NOW. I HAVE A QUESTION I'D LIKE TO ASK SENATOR CHAMBERS, BUT I WILL TRY TO CARRY ON HERE FOR A...WOULD SENATOR CHAMBERS YIELD TO A QUESTION? [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR CHAMBERS, WILL YOU YIELD? [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: YES, I WILL. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS. DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THAT WORD THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO AMEND OUT HAS BEEN IN

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STATUTE, WITHOUT GOING INTO A LONG... [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: NO, BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS THERE. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: SO THIS IS JUST SOMETHING YOU JUST NOW DISCOVERED ALL OF A SUDDEN AND ARE UPSET ABOUT? [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: YES. AND I'VE SAID REPEATEDLY THAT WHEN THINGS THAT ARE IN THE EXISTING LAW COME TO MY ATTENTION BY WAY OF A BILL SOMEBODY INTRODUCED, I WILL NOT JUST DEAL WITH THE BILL BUT I WILL DEAL WITH THE EXISTING LAW. AND THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING EVER SINCE I'M HERE. BUT I DON'T READ ALL THE STATUTES. [LB18]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: OKAY. THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS. I'LL LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR CONVERSATION. COLLEAGUES, I DON'T KNOW EITHER HOW LONG THIS HAS BEEN IN STATUTE. I DON'T THINK IT'S HURT ANYTHING BEING IN THERE. I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S EVER BEEN A CASE WHERE ANYBODY HAD TO GO TO THE STATE AND SAY, DO YOU RECOGNIZE MY RELIGION? I DON'T DISAGREE WITH SENATOR CHAMBERS NECESSARILY ON THIS, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S BEEN AN ISSUE. AND AT THIS POINT, I GUESS I WILL NOT PROBABLY BE SUPPORTING FA11. WE'LL SEE WHERE IT GOES. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A VOTE HERE SOMETIME THIS MORNING, EITHER THROUGH CLOTURE OR THROUGH THE VOTE PROCESS. SO AGAIN, FOR ANY OF YOU THAT CARE AT ALL, I WILL BE VOTING FOR THE GROENE AMENDMENT BUT I WILL NOT BE VOTING FOR LB18. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR BLOOMFIELD. SENATOR CHAMBERS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: MR. PRESIDENT, I TAKE MY RESPONSIBILITIES HERE FAR MORE SERIOUSLY THAN SOME OF YOU. THERE IS NO WAY I WILL BECOME AWARE OF SOMETHING IN THIS STATUTORY FRAMEWORK THAT WE HAVE OF THE LAW WHICH I KNOW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND I'LL SAY, WELL, NOBODY HAS BEEN AFFECTED BY IT OR WHATEVER. I WILL TRY TO CORRECT IT. THAT'S OUR JOB. WHEN WE KNOW SOMETHING IS NOT LIKE IT SHOULD BE, WE SHOULD CORRECT IT AND NOT MAKE A CITIZEN HAVE TO GO TO COURT AND CHALLENGE SOMETHING THAT WE KNOW SHOULDN'T BE THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE. A LOT OF BONE-HEADED...SENATOR BLOOMFIELD--NOT TO ASK YOU A QUESTION--A LOT OF BONE-HEADED THINGS ARE IN THE STATUTE BECAUSE THEY WERE PUT THERE...BEING PUT THERE WHEN I WASN'T HERE. BUT WHEN I BECOME AWARE OF IT, I DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. BUT I CANNOT DO EVERYBODY'S WORK. SO I DO IT AS IT COMES TO MY ATTENTION. AND THE REST OF YOU, IF YOU WANT TO, CAN SIT LIKE KNOTS ON LOGS AND SAY,

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WELL, IT'S NOT CONSTITUTIONAL, IT SHOULDN'T BE THERE, BUT I DON'T WANT TO TAKE THE TIME TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT REMOVING IT. SO I'M GOING TO TAKE A VOTE ON THIS AMENDMENT OF MINE. AND I'M AGAINST SENATOR GROENE'S AMENDMENT. IT WOULD ALLOW SOMEBODY WHO IS NOT AN ADULT EVEN TO OPT OUT OF VACCINE FOR--AND SENATOR SCHUMACHER MENTIONED THEM--MUMPS, POLIO, EVERYTHING. THIS BILL HAS BECOME A MONSTER IF YOU TAKE SENATOR GROENE'S AMENDMENT. AND SINCE IT SEEMS THAT PEOPLE ARE OF A MIND TO BEHAVE IN AN IRRESPONSIBLE, FOOLHARDY MANNER, THIS BILL SHOULD NOT GET 33 VOTES FOR CLOTURE. IT WOULD BE BETTER TO LET THE BILL DIE THAN TO ALLOW IT TO BECOME A VEHICLE FOR ERASING THE VERY THING THAT SENATOR KRIST IS TRYING TO DO. BUT SENATOR KRIST IS TALKING ABOUT MENINGITIS. THIS THAT YOU'RE DOING NOW WOULD WIPE OUT EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN DONE FOR ALL VACCINATIONS FOREVER, AND YOU'RE GOING TO GO BACK TO A SITUATION WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME FOOLS ON THIS FLOOR ABLE TO GET INTO THE TEXTBOOKS THAT MUST BE TAUGHT THAT THE EARTH IS FLAT. AND THEY'LL SAY, WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE IF WE SAY IT'S FLAT, NOBODY IS FALLING OFF OF THE EARTH, SO FLAT OR ROUND, IT DOESN'T MATTER, WE LIKE THE IDEA OF A FLAT EARTH. I AM, IF I SOUND FRUSTRATED, FRUSTRATED. SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS TO EVERYBODY AS BEING UNCONSTITUTIONAL, WHICH EVERY PERSON WHO PROFESSES TO BE RELIGIOUS SHOULD FIND ABHORRENT, AND SOMEBODY IS GOING TO STAND ON THIS FLOOR AND SAY, IT HASN'T BOTHERED ANYBODY, NOBODY HAS CHALLENGED IT. WELL, WHAT IS OUR DUTY AS THOSE WHOSE JOB IT IS TO LOOK OUT FOR THE INTEREST AND THE WELFARE AND THE COMMON GOOD? I'M ACKNOWLEDGING THAT I WASN'T AWARE THAT WAS IN THE STATUTE. AND THE POINT I WAS GOING TO MAKE WHEN MY TIME RAN OUT, I DON'T START AT PAGE 1 OF VOLUME 1 AND READ EVERY PAGE IN ALL OF THE VOLUMES OF NEBRASKA STATUTES. BUT AS THINGS COME TO MY ATTENTION, I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ONE MINUTE. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. AND I WOULD LIKE A RELIGIOUS PERSON TO STAND ON THIS FLOOR--SENATOR BLOOMFIELD DIDN'T DO THAT--AND SAY, I THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE TO HAVE IN THE STATUTE THE NOTION THAT THERE WILL BE RECOGNIZED RELIGIONS BY THE STATE AND OTHER RELIGIONS THAT ARE NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE, IF YOU BELONG TO A RECOGNIZED RELIGION BY THE STATE, THEN YOU HAVE THESE PRIVILEGES, AND IF YOU'RE OF AN UNRECOGNIZED RELIGION, YOU DON'T. ALL THESE PEOPLE UP HERE YAKKING ABOUT MANDATES AND GOD THIS AND GOD THAT AND GOD THE OTHER THING AND WHAT THE FOUNDING FATHERS TALKED ABOUT, AND YOU MISS ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS

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BECAUSE THERE'S A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THAT DEALS DIRECTLY WITH PROTECTING THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION. AND YOU ALL WHO ARE RELIGIOUS DON'T CARE. THAT'S WHY I SAY YOUR RELIGION MEANS NOTHING TO YOU. SO YOU KNOW WHAT MEANS SOMETHING TO ME TODAY? THE CONSTITUTION,... [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...NOT YOUR RELIGION. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: TIME, SENATOR. [LB18]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR CHAMBERS. SENATOR GROENE, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, PRESIDENT. I WANT TO YIELD A COUPLE OF MINUTES TO SENATOR McCOY IF HE'LL TAKE THEM. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR McCOY, WOULD YOU YIELD, PLEASE? [LB18]

SENATOR McCOY: YES, MR. PRESIDENT. I BELIEVE SENATOR GROENE WAS YIELDING ME PART OF HIS TIME. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR. THERE'S 4:35. YOU MAY PROCEED. [LB18]

SENATOR McCOY: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I SUPPORT FA11, SENATOR CHAMBERS. SO I THINK IT'S A WORTHWHILE FLOOR AMENDMENT AND I DON'T SEE ANY ISSUE WITH WHAT SENATOR CHAMBERS IS TRYING TO PROPOSE IN FA11. I THINK WE OUGHT TO VOTE ON IT AND THEN VOTE ON THE AMENDED AM143. AND WITH IT, I WOULD SUPPORT LB18. I'D LIKE TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION, COLLEAGUES. I COULDN'T PUT THIS OUT AS A HANDOUT. I JUST HAVEN'T HAD THE TIME TO DO IT. MY VERY CAPABLE STAFF HAS BEEN WATCHING WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON. AND I HAVE IN MY HANDS A PRINTOUT FROM THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES, NCSL, SHOWING THAT 20 DIFFERENT STATES, INCLUDING 3 NEIGHBORING STATES TO NEBRASKA, HAVE ALMOST VERBATIM THE LANGUAGE OF AM143 IN STATUTE, SO NOT JUST RELIGIOUS BUT PHILOSOPHICAL EXEMPTION TO IMMUNIZATIONS. I...IT'S NOT A...WE'RE NOT PLOWING NEW GROUND HERE, FOLKS. WE...THIS IS SOMETHING THAT 20 DIFFERENT STATES DO. SOME OF THE...THE THREE NEIGHBORING STATES THAT DO ARE COLORADO, MISSOURI,

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AND WITHOUT MY GLASSES I'M MISSING THE NEXT ONE, BUT AT ANY RATE, FOR SURE, COLORADO AND MISSOURI AND THERE'S ONE OTHER NEIGHBORING STATE, ALL OF WHICH I THINK LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT...I THINK AM143 AND THE COMPROMISE THAT WAS FOUND BETWEEN SENATOR GROENE AND SENATOR KRIST...AS OFTENTIMES WHAT HAPPENS ON THIS FLOOR, GOOD IDEAS ARE FOSTERED THROUGH HEALTHY DEBATE. I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE THIS MORNING. I THINK THAT THIS BECOMES A WORTHWHILE BILL WHEN THIS IS AMENDED IN AND I FULLY SUPPORT IT. AND WITH THAT, I'D RETURN THE REMAINDER OF THE TIME THAT SENATOR GROENE YIELDED TO ME BACK TO HIM, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR GROENE. [LB18]

SENATOR GROENE: THANK YOU, SENATOR McCOY. I STAND HERE IN FAVOR OF FREEDOM. I TRUST MY FELLOW CITIZENS. LIKE I SAID EARLIER, WE ARE A RARE COUNTRY. WE VALUE EDUCATION, WE VALUE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO HAVE THEIR OPINIONS, AND WE TRUST OUR NEIGHBORS. LB143 (SIC) ALLOWS MY NEIGHBOR TO DECIDE, ON HIS RESEARCH, WHAT HE WANTS TO DO WITH THE VACCINATION. I HAPPEN TO AGREE WITH SENATOR CHAMBERS. I DON'T JUDGE ANOTHER MAN'S RELIGION. THE ONE I BELONG TO STARTED OFF AWFUL SMALL ONE TIME. OF COURSE, IT'S THE ONLY ONE, AS SENATOR CHAMBERS HAS SAID THE BIBLE SAYS. BUT I'LL VOTE FOR SENATOR CHAMBERS' AMENDMENT, AND I'LL VOTE FOR AM143, THE AMENDMENT, SO THAT WE CAN GET THIS DONE. AND THEN, IF BOTH THOSE AMENDMENTS PASS, I WILL SUPPORT LB18. IF THEY DO NOT, THEN I WILL NOT VOTE FOR CLOTURE. THANK YOU. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR GROENE. MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE A PRIORITY MOTION. SENATOR KRIST, SENATOR, MAY I ASK YOU, IS THIS A UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST, OR WOULD YOU RATHER MOVE TO... [LB18]

SENATOR KRIST: UNANIMOUS CONSENT. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR KRIST WOULD ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO BRACKET LB18 UNTIL JUNE 5, 2015. [LB18]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? SEEING NONE, SO ORDERED. RETURNING TO SELECT FILE, MR. CLERK. [LB18]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, IN JUST A MOMENT, IF I MAY. MR. PRESIDENT, LB109. FIRST OF ALL, SENATOR HANSEN, I HAVE ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW

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AMENDMENTS. (ER17, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 416.) [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN FOR A MOTION. [LB109]

SENATOR HANSEN: YES, MR. PRESIDENT. I MOVE THAT THE E&R AMENDMENTS FOR LB109 BE ADOPTED. [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE E&R AMENDMENTS. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. THE E&R AMENDMENTS ARE ADOPTED. MR. CLERK. [LB109]

CLERK: SENATOR CRAWFORD WOULD MOVE TO AMEND WITH AM287. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 443.) [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR CRAWFORD, YOU'RE WELCOME TO OPEN ON AM287. [LB109]

SENATOR CRAWFORD: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND GOOD MORNING, COLLEAGUES. AM287 MAKES A TECHNICAL CORRECTION SUGGESTED BY BILL DRAFTERS THAT WAS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR E&R. IT STRIKES THE WORD "EITHER" IN ONE COMPONENT AND ADDS...AND CORRECTS A DATE FOR APPLICATION OF THE FEDERAL LAW. SO, THOSE ARE AMENDMENTS THAT ARE REQUESTED FROM THE BILL DRAFTERS' OFFICE. I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT. THANK YOU. [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR CRAWFORD. DEBATE IS NOW OPEN ON AM287. SEEING NO SENATORS WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR CRAWFORD, YOU'RE WELCOME TO CLOSE ON AM287, AND SHE WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS, SHALL AM287 BE ADOPTED? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE YOU ALL VOTED? RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB109]

CLERK: 38 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADOPTION OF SENATOR CRAWFORD'S AMENDMENT. [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. AM287 IS ADOPTED. MR. CLERK. [LB109]

CLERK: I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER ON THE BILL, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN. [LB109]

SENATOR HANSEN: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT LB109 BE ADVANCED TO

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E&R FOR ENGROSSING. [LB109]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADVANCE LB109 TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. LB109 IS ADVANCED. MR. CLERK. [LB109]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LB198. SENATOR, I HAVE ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL. (ER18, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 416.) [LB198]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN. [LB198]

SENATOR HANSEN: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT THE E&R AMENDMENTS TO LB198 BE ADOPTED. [LB198]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE E&R AMENDMENTS. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. THE E&R AMENDMENTS ARE ADOPTED. MR. CLERK. [LB198]

CLERK: I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER ON THE BILL, SENATOR. [LB198]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN. [LB198]

SENATOR HANSEN: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT LB198 BE ADVANCED TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. [LB198]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE THE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADVANCE LB198 TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. LB198 IS ADVANCED. MR. CLERK. [LB198]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, LB118. SENATOR, I HAVE ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW AMENDMENTS, FIRST OF ALL. (ER14, LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 416.) [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN. [LB118]

SENATOR HANSEN: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT THE E&R AMENDMENTS TO LB118 BE ADOPTED. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR PANSING BROOKS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I JUST HAVE A QUICK QUESTION ON...ON LB18...NO, SORRY. YEAH, LB118. I WANTED TO ASK A QUICK CLARIFYING QUESTION. I DON'T KNOW IF SENATOR LARSON CAN

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ANSWER THIS OR WHO COULD HELP ME, BUT I UNDERSTAND THAT THE BILL...I GUESS IT WOULD BE SENATOR LARSON. I UNDERSTAND YOUR BILL... [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR PANSING BROOKS,... [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: YES. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: ...I WONDER IF I MIGHT INTERRUPT YOU. WE'LL ADOPT THE E&R AMENDMENTS, OR CONSIDER THEM, AND THEN WE CAN MOVE TO YOUR REQUEST TO SPEAK. [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: OKAY. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR PANSING BROOKS. SENATORS, YOU'VE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE E&R AMENDMENTS TO LB118. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. THE E&R AMENDMENTS ARE ADOPTED. SENATOR PANSING...NO, EXCUSE ME, MR. CLERK. [LB118]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE BILL. SENATOR LARSON, AM76. SENATOR LARSON, IS THAT A WITHDRAWAL, SENATOR? THANK YOU. MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR SCHUMACHER WOULD MOVE TO AMEND WITH AM343. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGE 479.) [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR SCHUMACHER, YOU'RE WELCOME TO OPEN ON AM343. [LB118]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE BODY. THIS AMENDMENT TRIES TO INCREASE THE PROBABILITY THAT SHOULD THIS MEASURE GET BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT AGAIN, IT WILL SURVIVE THE COURT'S SCRUTINY. THE HISTORY OF CIGAR BARS AND LB118 HAS BEEN THAT IT WENT TO THE SUPREME COURT AND IN SUBSTANCE THE COURT SAID, LOOK, THE LEGISLATURE SAYS THAT CLEAN AIR AS FAR AS EMPLOYEES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS CONCERNED IS VERY, VERY IMPORTANT AND WE DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF SECONDHAND SMOKE. AND THEN THE LEGISLATURE SAID, YEAH, BUT EXCEPT FOR CIGAR BARS. AND THE SUPREME COURT SAID, YEAH, BUT YOU DIDN'T GIVE US ANY REASONS WHY WE SHOULD TREAT CIGAR BARS ANY DIFFERENT THAN ANYTHING ELSE AND YOU JUST BASICALLY SAYING, YEAH, BUT FOR CIGAR BARS, IS A SPECIAL LEGISLATION THAT YOU CANNOT DO UNDER THE CONSTITUTION. SO I TOOK A LITTLE TIME TO LOOK AT THAT COURT'S OPINION--I SUPPOSE WHEN THE SUPREME COURT SPEAKS DIRECTLY TO US AND THROWS OUT ONE OF OUR LAWS WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THEM REALLY CLOSE--AND LOOKED AT THE

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DRAFT THAT WE ADVANCED FROM GENERAL FILE ON LB118. AND IT DID NOT REALLY DO A TERRIBLY GOOD JOB IN GIVING THE SUPREME COURT OUR REASONING WHY WE THINK IT'S OKAY IN CIGAR BARS. AND IT SAID SUCH THINGS AS, WELL, IF AN EMPLOYEE DOESN'T LIKE THE SMOKE IN A CIGAR BAR, HE CAN LUMP IT OR LEAVE IT. IT SAID SUCH THINGS AS, WELL, WE THINK CIGAR BARS ARE DIFFERENT BECAUSE CIGARS ARE ENJOYED WITH WHISKEY AND RUM AND THOSE KIND OF THINGS. WELL, SO WHAT? BEER IS ENJOYED WITH A CIGARETTE. HOW DOES THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE? WHY WOULDN'T WE PUT, SAY, WELL, YOU KNOW, IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE SMOKED CIGARS IN LINGERIE SHOPS? WE DIDN'T OUTLINE EXACTLY WHAT WE WERE THINKING AND WHY IT WAS RATIONAL TO SEPARATE OUT CIGAR BARS. WHAT LB...OR AM343 DOES IS TRIES TO BETTER ARTICULATE WHAT ALL OF US WERE FEELING WHEN WE VOTED, OR AT LEAST MOST OF US PROBABLY, WHEN WE VOTED FOR LB118 ON GENERAL FILE. AND IT MAKES A POINT THAT CIGARS ARE EXPENSIVE THINGS. THEY ARE THINGS THAT ARE ENJOYED WITH VARIOUS LIQUORS AND, IN ORDER TO GET AN OPINION OF WHETHER OR NOT YOU WANTED TO INVEST IN A BOX OF CIGARS, YOU, JUST LIKE TEST DRIVING A CAR, WANT TO SAMPLE ONE IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CIGAR BAR AND TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOU LIKED IT. AND THE PARTICULAR AMENDMENT GOES THROUGH AND CITES THINGS THAT COULD MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE FOR YOU--THE CLIMATE WHERE THE TOBACCO WAS GROWN, THE FACT THAT THE TOBACCO IS PURE AND UNADULTERATED, THE FACT THAT IT WAS PROPERLY HUMIDIFIED DURING ITS TRANSPORTATION AND SALE SO THAT IT DOESN'T TASTE BAD--AND THAT THERE'S VERY RATIONAL REASONS FOR ALLOWING IN PLACES THAT SELL CIGARS THE SAMPLING OF CIGARS. CIGAR SALE IS A LEGAL FUNCTION. CIGAR SAMPLING IS NECESSARY TO CHOOSE WISELY HOW YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND CIGAR MONEY, IF YOU'RE INTO THOSE KIND OF THINGS, AND IT IS RATIONAL AND PROPER FOR US TO TREAT CIGAR BARS AND THE MARKETING OF CIGARS DIFFERENTLY FROM OTHER BUSINESSES. THE AMENDMENT ALSO REQUIRES SUCH THINGS AS SIGNAGE SO THE PUBLIC KNOWS THAT IF THEY GO IN A CIGAR BAR THEY WILL ENCOUNTER CIGAR SMOKE, AND ALSO ALERTS EMPLOYEES OR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES THROUGH THE USE OF A SIGNED FORM THAT THEY MAY BE EXPOSED TO CIGAR SMOKE. AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE A CIGAR SALESMAN, YOU KIND OF SHOULD EXPECT THAT ANYWAY AND IT'S INHERENT IN YOUR WORK BECAUSE YOU'RE SELLING AND YOU'RE SAMPLING AND YOU'RE MARKETING THE THINGS, BUT NEVERTHELESS, IT UNDERSCORES THAT WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF A FORM. I THINK THAT IF WE'RE GOING TO ADVANCE LB118, WE SHOULD READ THAT SUPREME COURT OPINION RATHER CLOSELY, GIVE THE COURT SOME GOOD REASONS, AS I THINK AM343 DOES, AS TO WHY IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH CIGAR BARS AND TOBACCO OUTLETS FROM OTHER FORMS OF BUSINESS FOR AN EXCEPTION, AND THAT WE ARE NOT BEING ARBITRARY AND CAPRICIOUS IN

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CREATING THIS VERY NARROW EXCEPTION TO THE CLEAN AIR ACT. I WOULD ASK YOUR SUPPORT FOR AM343. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANKS, SENATOR SCHUMACHER. SENATOR PANSING BROOKS, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. AND THANK YOU, SENATOR, FOR ALLOWING ME TO INTERRUPT YOU EARLIER. [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: NO PROBLEM, MR. PRESIDENT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I WAS JUST WANTING TO ASK SENATOR LARSON A QUESTION IF HE WOULD, PLEASE. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR LARSON, WOULD YOU YIELD? [LB118]

SENATOR LARSON: YES. [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: THE QUESTION THAT SOMEBODY IN MY DISTRICT HAS PROPOSED IS...I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR BILL WOULD ALLOW FOR CIGAR SMOKING IN CIGAR BARS OR SHOPS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. HOWEVER, ON THE TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLETS I HAVE A QUESTION. IN THE CITY OF LINCOLN THERE IS AN ORDINANCE THAT PREVENTS SMOKING OF ANY KIND WITHIN A TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLET. SO, AS I READ THE AMENDMENT, THE BILL AND AMENDMENT, I BELIEVE THAT THE ORDINANCE CAN STAY IN PLACE. IS THAT CORRECT THAT IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF THIS BILL TO TAKE AWAY THIS LOCAL CONTROL OPTION ON TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLETS? [LB118]

SENATOR LARSON: YES, SENATOR PANSING BROOKS. ON THE TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLETS, LINCOLN CITY ORDINANCE COULD STAY IN PLACE. THEY WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE. ANY LOCAL...LOCALITY, I SHOULD SAY, WILL BE ABLE TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE ON THE TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLETS BUT NOT THE CIGAR SHOPS, OR OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIGAR BARS. SO THE CITY OF LINCOLN WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE ON THOSE, BUT ANY TOBACCO RETAIL OUTLET THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE ON. [LB118]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: OKAY. THANK YOU, SENATOR LARSON. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR PANSING BROOKS AND SENATOR LARSON. SENATOR LARSON, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB118]

SENATOR LARSON: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. REAL QUICK, I KNOW WE'RE CLOSING IN ON LUNCHTIME AND GETTING READY TO MOVE THIS BILL. I AM IN SUPPORT OF AM343, AND WHICH SENATOR SCHUMACHER HAS INTRODUCED. I APPRECIATED WORKING WITH HIM IN BETWEEN GENERAL AND SELECT TO

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MITIGATE HIS CONCERNS REGARDING THE INTENT LANGUAGE, AND IT'S NOT A HOSTILE AMENDMENT. IT'S AN AMENDMENT THAT I ACCEPT OPENLY AND HOPEFULLY EVERYBODY CAN VOTE FOR IT AND WE CAN MOVE LB118. THANK YOU. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR LARSON. SEEING NO OTHER SENATORS WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR SCHUMACHER, YOU'RE WELCOME TO CLOSE ON AM343. SENATOR SCHUMACHER WAIVES CLOSING. THE QUESTION IS THE ADOPTION OF AM343 TO LB118. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE YOU ALL VOTED? RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB118]

CLERK: 32 AYES, 1 NAY, MR. PRESIDENT, ON ADOPTION OF SENATOR SCHUMACHER'S AMENDMENT. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. AM343 IS ADOPTED. [LB118]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO THE BILL AT THIS TIME. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATOR HANSEN. [LB118]

SENATOR HANSEN: MR. PRESIDENT, I MOVE THAT LB118 BE ADVANCED TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. [LB118]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADVANCE LB118 TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. LB118 DOES ADVANCE. MR. CLERK. [LB118]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, GENERAL FILE. LB167 IS A BILL BY SENATOR MELLO. (READ TITLE.) THE BILL WAS INTRODUCED ON JANUARY 12, REFERRED TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, ADVANCED TO GENERAL FILE. I HAVE NO AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL AT THIS TIME, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB167]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, MR. CLERK. SENATOR MELLO, YOU'RE WELCOME TO OPEN ON LB167. [LB167]

SENATOR MELLO: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE. IN 2009, THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE PASSED LB63, A COMPREHENSIVE CRIME BILL THAT CREATED THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION UNDER THE NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION. THE INTENT OF CREATING THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION WAS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE THROUGH GRANT FUNDING FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND

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INTERVENTION PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE STATE. LB167 SEEKS TO MAKE TWO MODIFICATIONS TO THE EXISTING STATUTORY OPERATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION. THE FIRST MODIFICATION ADDS YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AS A SPECIFIC CRITERIA THAT ENTITIES, BOTH NONPROFIT AND GOVERNMENTAL, CAN APPLY FOR THROUGH THE OFFICE'S ANNUAL GRANT FUNDING PROCESS. THE SECOND MODIFICATION ADDS A NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE ON THE STATUS OF THE OFFICE AND THE OUTCOMES FROM ITS ADMINISTERED GRANT PROGRAMS. CURRENTLY, THEY DO NOT SUBMIT ANY REPORTS TO THE LEGISLATURE. THIS ADDED MEASURE OF OVERSIGHT WILL ENSURE THE LEGISLATURE IS INFORMED ANNUALLY AS TO THE OUTCOMES OF THE GRANT FUNDING EFFORTS OF THE OFFICE. THE CRIME COMMISSION HAS ESTIMATED NO FISCAL IMPACT FROM THE MODIFICATIONS IN LB167. THE SERIOUS ISSUE OF GUN AND GANG VIOLENCE HAS BEEN SPOTLIGHTED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS WITH HIGH-PROFILE CASES IN THE OMAHA METROPOLITAN AREA. WHILE LB167 IS FAR FROM AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING APPROACH TO ADDRESS SOME OF OUR ONGOING VIOLENT CRIME ISSUES IN THE OMAHA AREA, THERE IS AN EFFORT TO BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH VIOLENT CRIME THROUGH SOME OF THE GRANT-FUNDED PROGRAMS THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION DOES OFFER. THE OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT TESTIFIED AT THE HEARING ON LB167 TO THE PROVEN CRIME PREVENTION MODELS OF SUBSIDIZED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS THAT HAVE HELPED REDUCE VIOLENCE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS WHEN TEENAGERS ARE NOT IN SCHOOL AND HAVE LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT. LETTERS OF SUPPORT WERE ALSO RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF THE OMAHA CITY COUNCIL, THE EMPOWERMENT NETWORK, AND OMAHA 360. LB167 WAS HEARD ON JANUARY 28 AND WAS ADVANCED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE FROM THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB167]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR MELLO. SENATOR COASH, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED. [LB167]

SENATOR COASH: THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. THANK YOU, COLLEAGUES. I DO STAND IN STRONG SUPPORT OF LB167. I HAD WONDERED ABOUT THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION AS I WAS ONE OF THE ONLY MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE THAT WAS ON THE COMMITTEE AT THE TIME THAT THIS OFFICE WAS PUT IN PLACE. I WAS LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT THE OFFICE HAD BEEN DOING, HOW...THE SUCCESS THAT THEY HAD BEEN HAVING. AS SENATOR MELLO POINTED OUT, NOT ONLY DO THEY DO THINGS ON THEIR OWN, BUT THEY'RE ALLOCATED QUITE A BIT OF MONEY

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THAT THEY GIVE OUT IN TERMS OF GRANTS. ABOUT \$300,000 OR MORE A YEAR FLOW THROUGH THAT OFFICE. IT'S OUR STATE TAXPAYERS' MONEY THAT IS GOING TO FIGHT THIS PROBLEM. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY CAN ARGUE THAT VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY IN OMAHA, IS A GROWING PROBLEM AND THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION IS CERTAINLY AN APPROACH TO TRY TO SOLVE THAT PROBLEM, BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE...WE, AS IN THE LEGISLATURE, HAD NOT ASKED FOR UNTIL LB167 NOR RECEIVED MUCH IN THE WAY OF INFORMATION THAT WOULD TELL US HOW THINGS WERE GOING. AND SO I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REPORT THAT COMES FROM LB167 BECAUSE THIS IS THE DATA THAT WE NEED IN THIS BODY IN ORDER TO MAKE A DECISION WHETHER OR NOT IT'S WORTH THE MONEY, IF THE OUTCOMES ARE WORTH THE MONEY, AND WHAT THOSE OUTCOMES ARE. AND SO THE OFFICE...AND I'VE TALKED WITH THEM, MET WITH THEM IN MY OFFICE THIS MORNING. THEY'VE GOT A COMMUNITY RELATIONS TASK IN FRONT OF THEM, NOT ONLY WITH THE LEGISLATURE BUT WITH THE COMMUNITY IN GENERAL, ABOUT WHAT THEY'RE DOING, HOW THEY'RE DOING IT, AND HOW WELL IT'S GOING. AND SO FOR THAT REASON, I STAND IN SUPPORT OF LB167. I HOPE YOU WILL AS WELL. AND I'LL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THIS: WHEN YOU GET THIS REPORT--BECAUSE I ANTICIPATE LB167 TO BE SIGNED INTO LAW--WHEN YOU GET THIS, LOOK IT OVER CAREFULLY, BE CRITICAL, ASK QUESTIONS. THIS IS A LOT...IT SEEMS LIKE WE CAN FIND ABOUT HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN THE COUCH CUSHIONS IN STATE GOVERNMENT SOMETIMES AND THAT'S ABOUT THE TOTAL OF THIS PROGRAM BETWEEN THE GRANTS AND THE PERSONNEL AND THE OFFICE AND THE OVERHEAD ITSELF. BUT THAT'S OUR JOB, COLLEAGUES. WE NEED TO DIG THROUGH THAT. IT'S NOT JUST THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE'S JOB. IT'S ALL OF OUR JOBS. AND IF YOU'RE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO REPRESENT A COMMUNITY THAT YOU DON'T THINK HAS VIOLENCE, LOOK AT IT ANYWAY BECAUSE THAT AFFECTS YOUR COMMUNITIES AS WELL. THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. [LB167]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU, SENATOR COASH. SEEING NO OTHER SENATORS WISHING TO SPEAK, SENATOR MELLO, YOU'RE WELCOME TO CLOSE. AND SENATOR MELLO WAIVES CLOSING ON LB167. THE QUESTION IS THE ADVANCE OF LB167 TO E&R FOR ENGROSSING. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE; THOSE OPPOSED VOTE NAY. HAVE YOU ALL VOTED? RECORD, PLEASE, MR. CLERK. [LB167]

CLERK: 41 AYES, 0 NAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF LB167. [LB167]

PRESIDENT FOLEY: THANK YOU. LB167 ADVANCES. MR. CLERK. [LB167]

CLERK: MR. PRESIDENT, A SERIES OF ITEMS FOR THE RECORD. EXPLANATION

Transcript Prepared By the Clerk of the Legislature
Transcriber's Office

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OF VOTE FROM SENATOR DAVIS (RE LB1, LB2, LB3, LB4, LB5, LB6, LB7, LB8, LB9). THE BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE REPORTS LB270 TO GENERAL FILE; LB334, GENERAL FILE, WITH AMENDMENTS. BANKING REPORTS LB342, LB456, LB464 TO GENERAL FILE; LB139 TO GENERAL FILE, WITH AMENDMENTS; LB458, GENERAL FILE, WITH AMENDMENTS. YOUR COMMITTEE ON ENROLLMENT AND REVIEW REPORTS LB41, LB42, LB65, LB91, LB92, LB93, LB95, LB99, LB100, LB126, LB150, LB151, LB170, LB171, AND LB177 AS CORRECTLY ENGROSSED. CONFIRMATION REPORT FROM RETIREMENT SYSTEMS COMMITTEE. AMENDMENTS TO BE PRINTED: SENATOR CHAMBERS TO LB10; SENATOR KEN HAAR TO LB111; SENATOR SCHILZ TO LB142. ONE ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT, BANKING COMMITTEE, LB257 TO GENERAL FILE, WITH AMENDMENTS. SENATOR COASH WOULD LIKE TO ADD HIS NAME TO LB210 AS COINTRODUCER. (LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL PAGES 511-518.) [LB1 LB2 LB3 LB4 LB5 LB6 LB7 LB8 LB9 LB270 LB334 LB257 LB342 LB456 LB464 LB139 LB458 LB41 LB42 LB65 LB91 LB92 LB93 LB95 LB99 LB100 LB126 LB150 LB151 LB170 LB171 LB177 LB10 LB111 LB142 LB210]

MR. PRESIDENT, SENATOR NORDQUIST WOULD MOVE TO ADJOURN THE BODY UNTIL TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESIDENT FOLEY: SENATORS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE MOTION TO ADJOURN. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED SAY NAY. WE ARE ADJOURNED.