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Transcriber's Office

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

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[LB46A LB46 LB68 LB91 LB121 LB248 LB271 LB283 LB289 LB622 LR42 LR43 LR44  
LR45 LR50]

SPEAKER SCHEER PRESIDING

SPEAKER SCHEER: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the thirty-seventh day of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain today is Senator Hilkemann. Please rise.

SENATOR HILKEMANN: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Hilkemann. I call to order this thirty-seventh day of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

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

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections to the Journal?

ASSISTANT CLERK: No corrections this morning.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Are there any messages, reports, or announcements?

ASSISTANT CLERK: I have no messages, reports, or announcements this morning.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR42, LR43, LR44, and LR45. I would like to make notice that there are cupcakes at your desk in honor of Senator Bolz's birthday tomorrow on March 1, not to be confused with the state of Nebraska's birthday. She is not quite the same age. The cupcakes were provided by her mother Pam Eisenhower and every year they are a treat, and I suspect they are going to be just as delicious this year. So thank you, Mrs. Eisenhower, and happy birthday, Senator Bolz. Mr. Clerk, we will proceed to the first item.  
[LR42 LR43 LR44 LR45]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the first bill this morning, LB46, introduced by Senator Watermeier. (Read title.) Bill was read for the first time on January 5. It has been considered by the Legislature on February 24 and February 27. An amendment from Senator Watermeier was

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

adopted. The first amendment for consideration this morning is from Senator Chambers. (FA4, Legislative Journal page 359.) [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Watermeier, if you'd like to give us a brief information on this. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Nebraskans. And good morning, colleagues. I return to the floor with LB46 today. Just a quick reminder, I did have this bill up in Transportation, it came out 8 to 0 in the Transportation Committee. We had a little debate on Friday. We had two and three hours' debate yesterday. We did pass AM37, which changed the fund going from the Child and Prevention Abuse Fund (sic: Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund) to the TANF, which is Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. I feel like I've reached out to the parties to answer those questions in which the money was going to go to, where the funds were going to go to. We think there will be 2,500 people across the state that are going to use this plate. And I'm glad to be the introducer of this bill and I appreciate the discussion. And I'd like your support on LB46. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Senator Chambers, you're welcome to introduce your motion. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, in order that everybody will know what's going to happen this morning...and the Speaker talked to me. He has said that if there is a bill and there doesn't seem to be much discussion--and he can elaborate on this if he wants to, I'm just giving you the bare bones of it--rather than just allow one person or a few when they are not going to be able to stop the bill to continue to discuss it, he will allow a cloture vote earlier or before the time has elapsed. I told him I'm agreeable. I'm disagreeing with what he said should be done; I disagree with that as a rule. But I've always said, let me know what the rules are and I will stay within them. Here is the irony of this situation. There are those who support this bill who talked about freedom of speech, didn't they? Didn't they? Well, my speech is to be curtailed because I feel strongly against this, but I'm the only one who will stand up and speak against it. There are others who voted against this bill by voting for some of the amendments I offered. And there are some who have not voted for my amendments, but they said they will not vote for the bill. So the way we have to put this in its starkest sense is, if there's a position that the majority don't like, the one or ones who don't like it are going to be squelched for the sake of the majority. And that was told to us in advance. It was told to me by the Speaker that this would be done today, so I had warning. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. So get ready to do this on some of these other bills that I would not ordinarily have objected to. And since I'll be the only one objecting, it'll be clear that there's not going to be enough debate to stop the bill. It'll be clear that others are not going to speak on the bill. So I want it established and

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

shown how, in fact, the Speaker and the Legislature have adopted a principle, if you want to call it that, of saying if a bill is popular enough and the wrong one is opposed to it, it's going to be cut off as far as the debate. I don't really care. I've said before, you can kill every bill that I've got and put me in a position to kill a lot of the session, which I will do. That's not a threat. It's just letting you know that when an effort is put forth by the majority or the government against the citizens, then there's going to be some pushback. It may not be by a lot of people, but there is going to be some pushback and I intend to do that. And let me bring up something before I'm shut down today on this bill. And he's going to have to do it on the A bill, too. And he will. But I say, so what? Is that any different from the way I've been treated in this Legislature for 42 years? No. Different cast of characters. The treatment is the same. A person called my attention to something that appeared in Sunday's Lincoln Journal Star. There was a listing--and this is just the partial one--a feature of 150 noteworthy Nebraskans. Well, Sunday my picture was among them at number 20. So that means there are 19 ahead of me, but there are 100 and some odd below me. So you all may not have any respect for me, you all may feel that it's all right to try to shut me down because I'll say what the rest of you are afraid to say. But there are others outside this Chamber who know. But I am not doing it for them, I'm doing it because I believe it's what I ought to do. And apparently you all believe that what you're doing is what you ought to do while you're in the majority. But I want to remind those 17, whoever they are, who were so incensed after what happened the first day because it involved them. I bet they won't stand up and say anything today about what is being directed against me. And yet, I was the one many of them came to, to carry on the fight against that action which would impact on them more than me. I don't belong to a political party. I don't belong to a church. I don't belong to social organizations. I do not go to events in my community. I don't go to panels. I don't do any of that. But if I choose to do it, I'll do it. I don't even put shackles on myself forever. I state what my general custom or practice will be and I'll stick by it. So you all will have your chance to get at me this morning. But there are other bills on the agenda today and I'm going to see how you all behave when your bill comes up and on some of these other bills. Now this happens to be what the Catholics and the pro-life people want, so I want to say something about all this religious nonsense. They want to say that if they are religious, they can discriminate against LGBT people because of their religion. Suppose I have an establishment and I have a religion and my religion says there is no God except the God I worship and my religion prevents me from servicing anybody of a different religion. And if your religion can let you discriminate against LGBT people, my religion tells me I cannot allow anybody of a different religion on my premises. I cannot allow anybody of a different religion to avail himself or herself of the services that my company will make available to everybody else. How about that? I bet you'd scream and holler then, wouldn't you? You'd say it's religious discrimination, because now it's a religion discriminating against you because of your religion. And you want the majority to say that your religion is better than my religion, so we're going to make it a numerical thing. And since there are more of you than of those in my religion, mine has to give place to yours. You see how preposterous this notion of hiding behind religion is? But the reason you all don't, because it benefits you all. It gives you

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

what you want. It gives you a hypocritical cover so that the viciousness, the vindictiveness of what you're doing can be cloaked and hidden behind what you want people to see as a noble veneer, religious belief. And religion is protected. Even if that religion discriminates, it overrides the promise of this country that all people are going to enjoy all the privileges and benefits that are made available to somebody by virtue of being a human being. But if you're a human being in the LGBT community, no way. But if you're a Catholic--and I say my religion is very opposed to Catholicism because they worship people--they say that somebody who is a man or somebody who's dead intervenes with God and prays. Well, the God that I worship does not have anybody serving as counsel for the condemned. It's just God and me, God and the others who believe in that God. So this Catholicism, believing in plaster saints and all these holiday, no way. Well, what about the Muslims? Well, they allow a man to have more than one wife. We don't believe in that. They can't come in here. Well, what about Hindus? Well, the Hindu can do if the Hindu is willing to give up what he believes and say he believes like I believe and joins in what I'm doing, because I don't know anything about these Hindus. Then how can you be opposed to them? If they're not a member of my religion, I'm opposed to them because they don't believe in my God. And my God tells me to deal only with those who believe in my God. Somebody will say, well, I notice you don't ascribe a pronoun to your God,... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...neither masculine, feminine... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Excuse me. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you. Go ahead, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh, you don't have to make them be quiet for me. They're going to show by their conduct what little regard they have for me. But I think one thing you'll notice, I don't ever carry on a loud conversation when somebody else is talking. And I don't need to be in the Legislature for that, that is common courtesy. You all want to say black people don't rear their children right. I bet I got better manners than everybody on this floor. You know why? Because I show that consideration to people who show me none. And I'm accustomed to it on this floor. And I'll mention it so that people outside this Chamber will know what it is that I'm dealing with. Why? Because I want them to know who they've sent down here and the kind of people that I have to deal with and why I must deal in the way that I do. [LB46]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Krist, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning. Good morning, colleagues, and good morning to all those listening in Nebraska. Senator Chambers' comments about knowing the rules, following the rules, and doing what the rules tell us to do is a good lesson for all of us. I think what you've seen, particularly with the IPP motion that was put up several days ago, is the rules do work and the debate process does work and there's no reason to change the existing rules that we have. We'll come back to that on day 50 or day 51 and talk about maintaining our rules and potentially moving on as they are, as amended by a Speaker. It's a Speaker's priority or prerogative to lengthen or shorten times in terms of debate to structure the schedule in a certain way for the sake of movement of priority motions or priority bills. All those things are very important. So that's all I'm going to say about that this morning, because it will play out that you, too, or I might be in the same situation as Senator Watermeier is, and knowing the rules and using the rules is very important. However, I made some comments yesterday and I've received a lot of feedback. Someone I used to really respect who didn't reach out to me in the past few months, even though all the things that have happened to us as a family and me personally or professionally, decides that this is the most important thing that she needs to reach out and touch me and ask me to change my viewpoint. I will not. I will not for a number of reasons. But the most important reason that I will not is that I do believe that we have enough personalized license plates in place, and that what we are approaching on here is comments or phraseology that incites people in one way or another politically. If not...I will say it again because it didn't seem to make much sense to her yesterday when I said it, so I'll say it so that it makes sense to all of you. And if she takes meaning from it, that's great. What's next? Pro-choice? I like my Buick? I'm pro-death penalty, I like to kill people? I still believe that when you encroach upon sensibility, political correctness, or insightful language on a license plate as the message or the message itself. Now I don't know how many of you could even come close to matching my pro-life voting record and taking care of those people, providing services, essential services to those people throughout my career. Many of you may take exception to that, but I invite you to look at my record. There are very few of you that could match that. This is not about choosing life as in a conviction to be pro-life or choose-life, this is about a darn license plate for gosh sake. Don't mix up the two. So with that, I would say as pro-life as I am and as much as I would like to see someone be able to put a message on their license plate that says pro-life, which is up to each individual, I don't think the state should put terminology on a license plate that takes a political stand one way or the other on these subject matters. And with that, I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, 1:00. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Krist. And I can vouch for the kind of work that Senator Krist has done during the time that I've been here. And he'll probably misunderstand this. I didn't know he was a "Repelican" because of the position that he was willing to take that departed so much from what their party line is. The only way I know he's pro-life is when he votes or if the issue comes up, because he doesn't put it in people's face. Just like I don't put it in people's face that I believe in a woman's right to have an abortion. But if the subject comes up, I will make it crystal clear where I stand. The only time I've tried to put anything in the statute is when I'm dealing in this manner on one of those anti-choice bills where if these people who say they're pro-life take a certain position, then I provide the proper terminology for it. [LB46]

PRESIDENT SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Krist and Senator Chambers. Senator Howard, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President. I was hoping I could learn a little bit more about where the funding is going for LB46. I understand from the amendment that we've shifted the funds into the TANF block grant, which is our temporary assistance for needy families. We currently have a rainy day fund for TANF that has millions of dollars in it, and while we try to expend our block grant annually and we do take about 20 percent of our block grant and put it into our child care subsidy or our Title XX program, I wanted to see if Senator Watermeier would yield to a question. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Watermeier, would you please yield? [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes, I would. [LB46]

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. We have been talking a little bit off the mike about TANF. And given that we do have a rainy day fund for TANF and that while we do extend most of our block grant annually, there is money leftover for us to utilize as a state, would you consider allowing the funding to go to any other worthwhile child welfare programs? [LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yeah, I certainly would. If we found a file...a fund that would maybe be more appropriate between General and Select, if you had a suggestion. I'd have to be a little careful about where that is. We used TANF because I thought it was a safe avenue. It's a pretty large fund. I remember us serving with HHS with you that it was a fund that received federal funds, in and out with state, but if you had an idea of a fund that may be better I would consider that, certainly, yes. [LB46]

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you. And I do have an idea for something that would be better. And I appreciate you teeing me off for that. One program that's really exciting that we're currently doing is called Family Finding. It's an intensive program for kids who are in the foster care system. And Christian Heritage, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, and NFC in-house do this intensive Family Finding work. So when a child is in foster care, they will try to find a cousin or a grandparent or a kin who's further away, even in another state, and they will try to make that placement. It usually ends up finding a permanent placement with kin for those children, but it's a program that's new. It hasn't been going for that many years. And it's certainly something that has worked in other states. And so that's a model that I would happily suggest in terms of funding for these license plates to go to. Sure, if you'd like to answer. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yeah, Senator Howard, I would consider that. One thing that first comes to mind--I forgot to ask this off the mike--was the reach of the state. Would it be confined...you mentioned Heritage Christian Fund and then NFC. Would it stay just in the eastern service unit or would these funds and this service that they provide be across the state of Nebraska? [LB46]

SENATOR HOWARD: Absolutely not. It would reach the entire state. Some of the funds would go to NFC, who does Family Finding in-house, but Christian Heritage and the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation reach the entire state. And I know especially in your district, in your service area, in the southeast service area, there's been a particular highlight towards Family Finding, given the high incidence of death or serious injury for children, specifically in that southeast service area. So it would reach the entire state. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Well, to answer your question, I would certainly consider that. I'd want to look at it pretty closely to make sure, but I would probably consider that. So thank you. [LB46]

SENATOR HOWARD: Certainly. Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Howard and Senator Watermeier. Senator Pansing Brooks, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am rising to mention the fact that in among all these amendments there is an amendment at the end that I've offered that would add in rape culture to the license plates. If we're going to have a license plate--which I really don't think we should have license plates...I don't think we should have speech on license plates; I stand against that again--but if we're going to do it, then I would say that we ought to also add End Rape Culture. So some people didn't exactly know what that meant, so I got some information to go through what end rape culture might mean. And I think one of the senators yesterday said...oh, I think it was Senator Watermeier said, well, we can't add on an amendment or a different verbiage on a license plate now because there was no hearing on it. And I think that most people can understand what this means, it's not politically charged speech, as opposed to the speech that is before us now. And so, again, I don't think that anything would be difficult or controversial to add End Rape Culture as another alternative for this license plate, ending rape culture. So rape culture...this is from Marshall University. "Rape culture is an environment in which rape is prevalent and in which sexual violence against women is normalized and excused in the media and popular culture. Rape culture is perpetuated through the use of misogynistic language, the objectification of women's bodies, and the glamorization of sexual violence, thereby creating a society that disregards women's rights and their safety. Rape culture affects every woman. The rape of one woman is the degradation, terror, and limitation to all women. Most women and girls limit their behavior because of the existence of rape." Clearly, I don't know that every man knows that in this body. Women limit their behavior because of the existence and fear of being raped. "Men, in general, do not. That's how rape functions as a powerful means by which the whole female population is held in a subordinate position to the whole male population, even though many men don't rape, of course, and many women are never victims of rape. This cycle of fear is the legacy of rape culture." And there are examples of rape culture that goes on. And I've got a couple articles that repeat these almost word for word. So: blaming the victim, she asked for it; trivializing sexual jokes; oh, boys will be boys; sexually explicit jokes; tolerance of sexual harassment; inflating false rape report statistics; publicly scrutinizing a victim's dress, mental state, motives, and history; gratuitous gendered violence in movies and television; defining manhood as dominant and sexually aggressive; defining womanhood as submissive and sexually passive; pressure on men to quote unquote, score; pressuring women not to appear quote unquote cold; assuming that only promiscuous women get raped; assuming that men don't get raped or that only weak men get raped;... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: ...refusing to take rape accusations seriously; and teaching women to avoid getting raped instead of teaching men not to rape. How many of you in this body



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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

have had any kind of education or training on the theory of not raping? Probably not many of you, but almost every woman has had information on avoiding getting raped. I see Senator Wishart shaking her head yes. We even had a fraternity in our city, in our state, chanting, no means yes. That's part of rape culture that I would like to end and people want to support that. I've had many people writing to say, yes, this is a good addition to this license plate, if we're going to go ahead and start having speech. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, none of these other amendments will have a chance. He's going to cloture the bill. So you're not going to be able to amend this bill any kind of way, because I'm going to carry them over to Select File also. You can't get around me. No other issue is so important as to show that I can be clotured on this bill. But that's not for the whole session. That's not even for the whole day. Senator Watermeier and Senator Howard had discussions about a possible amendment. It won't come up, because it's more important that the session move right along. How much more time would there be before cloture can be invoked in the ordinary course? Maybe three hours. And maybe if that happened, I could be prevailed on to do differently, but I'm not going to say that in advance. But I will say now that there's no way that I will yield anything. By the way, those of you all who have so much contempt for me, look at this piece of paper you're going to fill out today to get more money than you'll get on your paycheck. That's what the black man gave to you white people. That's what the descendant of the slave gave to you descendants of the slaveholders. Why don't you reject it? Why don't you say anything with my fingerprints on it is so contaminated you will not accept it? There's not one of you who will turn down that money, huh? Because the money means more to you than your principle. And what is the principle? Against Ernie, at all cost. That's what it boils down to. I have 42 years teaching me what your activities mean and I've seen what this Speaker is trying to do here. The Governor already said what a great guy he is and how they get along. The Governor doesn't like what I'm doing either, but I'm going to find a way. And back on this whole thing of religion. When you all want to do something and make it seem like what it's not, you invoke religion. When you do something which is patently racist, you want to cloak it as something so you can pretend that it's not and say this would be done with reference to anybody in this Chamber, but you've tailored it to fit only one person in this Chamber. That's why some black people said segregationists in the south are easier to deal with than those in the north, because you know what they are. They tell you what they are. These hypocrites play like they're something else. And by mislabeling something in order to get at a black person, you demean and degrade the thing that you have mislabeled. Nothing is sacred to you. That money that you get--thanks to me--you love and you'll accept it. Even the senators who voted against the legislation that I brought to make this possible accepted the money when it started flowing in. I could have said, like Jesus, he that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone. He that rejected this

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

bill, be the first one to give up the money. But they wanted somebody else to do the work, somebody else to take the incoming fire. Then when there was something of value generated by it they will trample that into the dirt getting to the point where they can take advantage of what they like. Even the Speaker gets more money thanks to me. Every one of you, without exception, and then you're going to treat me this way. See, this is why...Senator Walz is my teacher. She is not just the teacher of those who are in the classroom. She was so good at what she did that I will become... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...an honorary student, self-proclaimed. There are...I don't have enough time to get it out now, so I will turn on my light. And maybe by then I will change my mind and not even say it. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Bolz, you are recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR BOLZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to take the opportunity to pick up on Senator Howard's comments about the Family Finding program. Family Finding was my priority bill a couple of years ago and I believe in this model. And I think anyone who believes in doing what's best for kids and helping them find a permanent home should be thoughtful about this strategy. It's evidence based and it's been proven to work. Many of you know from the headlines that Nebraska's child welfare system has some challenges, specifically related to safety in the child welfare system and to the prevalence of out-of-home placements. Family Finding is a response to those concerns. By helping kids connect with their extended families, not only do we find additional placements and permanency for those kids, we help them find a permanent family network. And all of the evidence shows that those long-term relationships are what really contribute to stability and to success in their future lives. In 2014, there were over 3,000 kids in out-of-home care in Nebraska, and most of those kids have experienced a significant level of trauma. So not only are we dealing with young people who are in the child welfare system, we're working with kids who need to build stable relationships...stable, trusting relationships to move beyond that trauma experienced as a young person. We have found that in the southeast service area and in the rest of the state, the organizations that are implementing Family Finding are incredibly successful. One of the statistics that I think is just great about the Family Finding program is that the average number of relatives found per youth is 48. Can you imagine going from a young person who feels so alone in the child welfare system to finding a network of 48 people who are related to you and begin to build an investment in you? So whether it is through diverting funding from the license plates, as was proposed by Senator Howard, or whether it's retaining the commitment that we've already put into our budget, we must use innovative strategies to take care of our kids. There's a strong return on investment and it's believing in life,

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

whatever your definition of that is. It's believing in one another, believing in families, believing in family systems, and believing in the future of this state. So whether we continue to discuss the funding stream that might be a result of LB46, or whether we defend the funding for this and other child welfare programs in the budget, in spite of yesterday's fiscal forecast, that's setting our priorities. That's using our budget as a moral document, and that's something that I believe in and will fight for. So I appreciate your attention on Family Finding. I'll make a copy of the fact sheet so that the rest of you can read the details as well. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Bolz. Senator Schumacher, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. Senator Bolz just touched on it and maybe it's time that we put this bill in context of a much bigger problem. And the much bigger problem is, we got a really sorry-looking fiscal forecast. And in the course of the legislative careers of most of the people in this body there will be many, many real sorry-looking fiscal forecasts. And in all probability, the notion that we're going to have some kind of revenue growth on the order of what it historically has been, 5 percent, up or down a little bit, into the indefinite future is wrong. And our revenues are not going to be that way. There is a really good argument that can be made they'll be closer maybe to 3 percent to 4 percent. And you're going to be pulling your hair out trying to figure out how you can raise the revenue to do the needed functions of the state, which include those that we look like are going to be putting off in our present budget and pushing on to you in the future to do the renovations, the staffing, and all the things that have to be done to make the machine run. Now, ask yourself, how many hours are you going to take away from that necessary task in your careers here to argue about license plates and what message is good this year for license plates? Even the list of amendments to this one just shows you the infinite creativity that can happen when you have a group who wants to have their own license plate and wants to be able to go back to the membership and said, "looky" what we got for you. We got you a license plate. Send your dues in. Pay your lobbyist, because we got a license plate for you. Regardless of how the procedural things work out today, we'll move on from this bill at some point and it'll be on Select File. And what I'm thinking of doing and you maybe can think along is, maybe we can turn back the clock and sunset all these specialty plates two, three years out and that'll save you one whole lot of time and a whole lot of filibusters over whose specialty plate should be next. And we just sunset it. I don't think after the discussion we've had today, we can really say that they were a good idea. And so I want you to start thinking about what we have to really deal with this session, what you are going to have to deal with, much more than what I will, over your legislative careers in a real financial mess that we are making worse by not taking the bull by the horns now and adjusting revenues to meet needs. And it may be just smart on everyone's part to say, license plates is something not of high enough priority for us to kill much time on, for you to kill much time on, and maybe we should just sunset the whole mistake. Thank you. [LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

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SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Schumacher. Senator Watermeier, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. I get a sense that maybe the debate has fallen off a little bit here, and I'd hate to get involved in a fiscal debate with Senator Schumacher about our outlook. Very disappointing yesterday, but not really unaware that we weren't going to have a \$200 million shortage, which I was convinced we were going to have. So to me, a \$168 million shortfall is actually positive in my mind because I know what's going on outside the walls of Nebraska. But this morning I just rise to make my point here. I'm hoping to have a cloture motion here this morning at some point in time. If we were to do it now I would tell the body, please vote yes for a cloture motion; vote no on Senator Chambers' floor amendment; and then yes on LB46. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Senator Wishart, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR WISHART: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. I've listened carefully to this debate yesterday and today. I will likely be voting in support of LB46. I also support Senator Chambers' floor amendment, and here's why. We have allowed customized license plates to be generated by the state for the past several years. If we're going to have customized license plates created by the state, unless they are blatantly offensive--which I personally do not believe that this slogan, choose life, is or that Senator Chambers' amendment is--then I will likely support these license plates. Otherwise, as Senator Schumacher said, we should have no customized license plates generated by the state, period. I also rise in support of Senator Howard's most recent suggestion to make sure that the funds raised through the purchase of these license plates are utilized well to support the well-being of children. And I hope that we deal with that issue today or on Select File. And then, additionally, I rise in support of Senator Pansing Brooks's amendment to add the slogan, End Rape Culture, as an option for this license plate. So I hope we also address that today or on Select File. Thank you. And with that I yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Wishart. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator "Wiseheart." Members of the Legislature, this is a nothing bill, but you're delivering the slight to me on a nothing bill. Are you prepared for the consequences? You don't think very far down the line. Ninety days is not a great amount of time to me. When you get to those tax bills, I can offer amendments on every amendment that's up there. I can offer motions on every bill and reconsideration. How are

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

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you going to feel then? You going to look back to Senator Watermeier and this day and you're going to say you took a principled position? Fine. I'm taking a principled position. And I'm not going to let you know when the stone shall fall, but when it does you'll know it. Members of the Legislature, do what you want to today but mark this day well--the last day of February. Who was the person told to beware the ides of March? And ides did not refer to people, individuals of any species, but rather a period, the middle of the month of March. I will tell you all, beware the ides of March. You're going to be penny wise and pound foolish. How much time are you going to save, even today, by passing this slight to me? And you might say, what difference does it make? It makes you no difference now, but it's going to make all the difference in a world to the session. I have a bill coming up shortly on this agenda. You know the only one who can make a cloture motion? The one whose bill it is. Am I so concerned about that what I feel distortion of the process by one man, that I would give up my own bill? Certainly. I'll offer it again. We won't be here as long as I will probably, and some of the rest of you will be gone before I will. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The bill can become my method of giving you an object lesson. And are you going to change the rules to say that anybody can make a cloture motion, because it didn't occur to you and the geniuses around here that a person may not cloture his or her own bill? Then is he going to take it off the agenda? You let him do anything else he wants to do, because you all are not as smart as you think you are. Then you do things piecemeal, slapdash. And I use this to show black people how white people do when they're in charge. They pass rules and when the rules don't work, they change them on the fly because they're white and they can say, this is the way it's going to be and it becomes that way because a white man said it. Not with me. I will get my pound of flesh again and again and again, so maybe it wasn't the smartest thing. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Howard. I'm sorry, Senator Chambers. You are next in the queue, that was Senator Wishart's. You are now on your time. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I knew that was the way it was supposed to be, but I'm accustomed to being treated differently. My light's been on. People are so anxious to have me stop talking, they forget the process that they are presiding over, because they got their minds on other things. Big shot. You had to be a big shot, didn't you?/Had to open up your mouth./You had to be a big shot,

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

didn't you?/All your friends were so knocked out. "Mr. Big Shot." That was a song by Billy Joel; I won't sing it. So if I say B.S., you know what I'm talking about, "Big Shot." And you all think you're doing something to me by sending a bill like this that makes clear what you all are or have been makes me any difference? I'll fight it, because you brought it out here. The committee sent it out here. Senator Watermeier wanted it here to prove that he's pro-life. If it takes this to prove it, he hasn't got much going for himself, has he? I'm going to be here and you all are going to deal with me. And I'm going to show you that you'll play the game according to my dictates unless you decide on the spur of the moment to pass an idiotic rule to say the Speaker can deal with Senator Chambers any way he chooses, because he alone is more potent than 48 of us working in concert. So the rules go out the window. I didn't say he can't do what he's going to do this morning. I'm just telling you all that I know what he's going to do, but there will be consequences. People took this big guy Sampson who was so strong, made a mockery of him, put him in the temple--again, religion. And you know what Sampson did? Sampson believed something or other. He said, God, strengthen me this once, which his God did. And Sampson brought the house down, not with applause. Literally, brought the house down. Shall I bring the legislative house down? After all, is not this room not named after me, the Legislative Chambers? Is not this my room? The place where I live and move and have my being? Let us just see if I'm bluffing. Whose bill is first on the agenda after this one? Senator Quick. I like Senator Quick. I respect Senator Quick. And I'm in a position to play favorites, just like the Speaker and all the rest of you. I'm going to play a favorite with Senator Quick. I'm like the death angel. If you have the mark above your door, I will pass over. I look at Senator Quick's establishment, his edifice, his abode, and I see the mark, and the death angel shall sheathe the steel and pass over. Then who's next? Senator Chambers. We shall see if I am playing. And we're going to see how long he'll let me talk on my own bill... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...before he says, as the Speaker, I'm just going to shut this off. We weren't smart enough. I told you to listen to Bob Seger's song: Every time they thought they had him caught, they weren't as quick as they thought. And he was quicker than they thought, because you all don't think. You look at one item and that's what you build your whole edifice around and upon. And I look beyond it and I anticipate what might be done by small-minded people in this Legislature. Small minds think small thoughts and it never occurred to those who put these rules together that a person would engage in extended debate on his or her own bill. I've thought of this idea down through the years, but it never was necessary because you had never granted the Speaker such strong... [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Howard, you're recognized. [LB46]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President. I thought I'd take one more moment to extol the virtues of Family Finding by giving you some examples of children who have been impacted by it. These are from Karen Authier, who gave testimony in January about Family Finding from the Nebraska Children's Home Society. Twelve-year-old Josh reconnected with his biological mother through Family Finding, and Josh had been in the child welfare system for ten years, our child welfare system, which means that he had only had two years with a family before he was in our child welfare system. That's most of his life. And because of challenges presented by his disabilities, he experienced placement failures and is living in a group home. At 12 years old, he is in a group home in Nebraska. But using Family Finding, the Nebraska Children's Home Society reached out to his biological mother for a connection. And they learned that she'd turned her life around in 12 years. She's now married, successfully parenting four children, and wants Josh to be with her and her new family. And they're currently in the process of reunification. This is exactly what we want any type of funding to be used for, is getting kids to permanency. Seventeen-year-old Jalissa (phonetic), who's of Native American descent, reconnected with her family and before Family Finding she had zero connections and had had only one visit with her siblings in two years. And I'd like to commend Senator Bolz for bringing a bill about sibling placement in the Judiciary Committee to keep siblings together. I honestly thought we had addressed it, but unfortunately the Department of Health and Human Services isn't doing what they're supposed to do about keeping kids together and with their families and their siblings. Within one week of Family Finding, Jalissa had spoken to her grandmother and arranged a trip to the reservation. And now she has over 30 relative connections and sees her siblings more regularly. That's exactly what we want Family Finding to do and that's exactly where, if we're able to do it on Select File, where this funding could go. I know Senator Chambers has very strong feelings and I do as well. But I try to think about what's going to be best for kids in our child welfare system as often as possible. And sending these funds to TANF is fine, but it's a drop in the bucket. Sending them to a specific program like Family Finding could really make an on-the-ground difference for kids. And with that, I yield the balance of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers...excuse me, Senator Howard. Seeing no one else in the queue...I'm sorry. I was distracted. Senator Chambers, you have 3:30. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Howard. Pay attention. When I'm called on, I'm ready to go. He's the Speaker. He's the engineer. You ever hear that song about Casey Jones, died with the throttle in his hand? See what they can do? That's your leader. He's going to cut me off because he doesn't pay attention. None of you pays attention. But I do. You think I'm the prey, don't you? What is the difference between predator and prey? Is it size or is it circumstances, and which can make the better use of circumstances to achieve an end? A cloture motion applies to one bill. You cannot cloture two bills at the same time under one

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

cloture motion. I read this agenda and you all didn't read it. I said, who's next up? I think I see somebody before Senator Quick and that person's name starts with a K. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Kolterman. That name rings a bell with me. So before I get to Senator Quick--and it shall not be quick--I have Senator Kolterman. And I'm sure everybody agrees with his bill, so I'll be the only one talking about it, so the Speaker is going to have to shut me up, because there's no debate. But before we get to Senator Kolterman, I see a bill with a number and behind that number is the letter A. And that letter stands for appropriation. That designates it as a bill and motions can be made on that bill and amendments can be offered. You going to let the Speaker say, this bill cannot have any debate? Will you all go along with it? Is that how you want to go this morning? I'm going to push you to the limit. There have been times in the past when I go to the brink and I stop. I'm going to push you to the limit this morning. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Seeing no one in the queue, you're welcome to close on your amendment. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, this is going to be more fun than the shoot out at the O.K. Corral. There's no Ike Clanton in this body. There's no Wyatt Earp. There's no "Doc" Holliday. There are no cameras rolling. This is not Tombstone, Arizona, but it might be the beginning of a set of circumstances where a tombstone will mark this particular session. That's in my hands, not yours. You all won't do it. You all can't do it. I'm supremely free, because I can choose to do it or choose not to do it and you can't stop me. I don't care what you do with your rules. I don't care what you let the person sitting in that chair say he can do to stop me. Some of you are going to have your belly full and you will feel that you are being insulted by what that tactic will indicate. I've got to show you that when you look at me, you see what you're going to get. And I say again, if I tell you a hen dipped snuff, look under her right wing and you'll find tobacco stains. Like the Medes and the Persians, on certain situations I change not. So this morning is mine, unless you're going to tell the Speaker he can save you all. Is he going to be able to do that? Do I know precisely when he will drop the hammer? Would it make me any difference? Not really. I'm just kind of soliloquizing this morning. A soliloquy is when a person...you know, solitary, solitude, one, alone, is just talking to the audience. A colloquy involves more than one. It's nice to drop little bits of information along the way to show you you're not as smart as you think you are and I'm not as dumb as you think I am. I read your



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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

books. I studied your philosophy. I've been around you and I know what you are. Isn't that what they always say in these monster or these horror movies? Somebody will look at the purported demon and say, I know who you are. If I don't want to be the prey and the only alternatives are either predator or prey, then I've got to be the predator. When former...oh, he never was a senator. But when James Cavanaugh was more in the Legislature proceedings than now because he's a member of the Douglas County Board, he was speaking in behalf of my mountain lion bill on behalf of the Sierra Club and he quoted an Irish author whom he and I have a lot of use for, Oscar Wilde. And one of these days I'm going to give you the other three names in his name. And he described a fox hunt in the following words: the inedible being pursued by the unspeakable. All of you are on your horses. You got all of these dogs chasing a small animal, which has what they call a hot scent. Not one of those dogs could the fox handle alone. But you send a pack after this fox for your enjoyment, for your amusement. And you don't even walk after the dogs, you're on horses and you have a jolly good time. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that's what the Englishman is about, the unspeakable; I would say the unmentionable. Well, maybe you view me as the fox and you all as the hounds, but you're going to see the tables turned today. Mr. President, I would ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There has been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record. [LB46]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 22 ayes, 4 nays to go under call, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. Those unexcused senators outside the Chamber please return to the Chamber and record your presence. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. The house is under call. Senator Hilgers, Wishart, Wayne, Groene, Smith, Kolowski, Hilkemann, please return to the floor. The house is under call. Senator Hilkemann, Kolowski, and Wishart, please return to the floor. Senator Wishart, please return to the floor. The house is under call. Senator Wishart, the house is under call. Please return to the Chamber. Thank you, Senator Chambers. We are going to proceed. The question before us is the adoption of FA4 by Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, there's been a request for roll call in regular order. [LB46]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 562.) 1 aye, 32 nays on the adoption of the amendment, Mr. President. [LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: The motion fails. Mr. Clerk, you have a motion on the desk? [LB46]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Watermeier would move to invoke cloture on LB46 pursuant to Rule 7, Section 10. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: It is the ruling of the Chair that there has been full and fair debate afforded to LB46. We will proceed the vote on cloture. This is a roll call vote. It will take 33 positive votes for cloture to occur. Mr. Clerk. Senator Watermeier. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes, I'd like to make sure the house is under call and I would like to wait for all the members present. Senator Wishart is not here yet. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Okay. Senator Wishart, please return to the floor. The house is under call. Senator Wishart, we are still waiting. The house is under call. Please return to the Chamber. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Pursuant to Rule 7, Section 5, I would move that the call be raised. And if a majority of those...well, you can read the rule. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Okay. Thank you, Senator Wishart, for coming. That is legitimate. I can do this either as a voice vote or a machine vote. All those in favor of raising the call, say aye. All those opposed to raising the call vote nay. The nays have it. We are under...we still are under call. There have been requests for record (sic) vote, regular order. Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal pages 562-563.) The vote is 36 ayes, 6 nays on the motion to invoke cloture, Mr. President. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: The motion to invoke cloture is adopted. Members, the next vote is the adoption of LB46. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have all voted that wish to? Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 37 ayes, 7 nays on the motion to advance the bill. [LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: The motion is adopted. LB46 is advanced. Senator Pansing Brooks, for what reason do you rise? Raise the call. [LB46]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you. I have a point of personal privilege.

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

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SPEAKER SCHEER: You may proceed.

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you. Colleagues, this morning I wanted to rise in anticipation of the exciting birthday of the sesquicentennial for tomorrow. I know that we're all excited about that and looking forward to the many celebrations that are going on throughout the state. And in light of that, I thought it was important today to take a moment and recognize the first people who were here prior to the event when we became a state and those were the indigenous peoples. There are currently four tribes that are here. And with that, I wanted to quickly read a Nebraska story that's very important. It's the story of Standing Bear and how he became our first truly civil rights advocate and gave the ability of native people to be able to be citizens in a court of law. So I hope that you'll not run off but that you will listen to this story, because it is part of our history. It's part of our pre-state history, so I think it is particularly important to tell this story today. Thank you, Mr. President. This comes from Standing Bear's speech from The Indian Journal and I've asked Senator Brewer to help me in this as well. So this is directly from the report that was made at the time of the hearing and I think it's fascinating if you haven't heard it. "The first time an Indian was permitted to appear in court in this country and have his rights tried was in the year 1879. Previous to this every Indian in the United States was subject to orders of the Secretary of the Interior. If he happened to be a man of tyrannical nature, the Indians fared hard. One Secretary of the Interior had caused all the Ponca Indians..." excuse me, Mr. Speaker. May I have a little more people listening, please? "...caused all the Ponca Indians to be driven, at the point of bayonet from northern Nebraska down to Indian territory," which we now know as to be Oklahoma, "depriving them of lands to which they held government deeds. They were left in the new country for months without rations, and more than one-third of them died. Among these was the son of Standing Bear. The old chief refused to have the boy buried in the strange country, and, gathering about 30 members of his tribe together, he started for their ancient hunting-grounds intending, to bury his boy where generations of the Ponca chiefs lay." Along the Niobrara. "The Secretary of the Interior heard of the runaways and through the War Department telegraphed General Crook, of Omaha, to arrest the Indians, and return them to Indian Territory. So General Crook arrested Standing Bear and his followers, and took them all, with the old wagon that contained the body of the dead boy, down to Omaha. Standing Bear told his story to the general, who was already familiar with many wrongs that had been committed against the Indians, and who was indignant at their treatment. He detained the Indians at Omaha until he consulted with a Mr. Tibbles, an editor of a newspaper. They agreed to espouse the cause of the Indians, securing to Standing Bear a trial in the United States court. It was the most notable trial ever brought in the West, and, in fact, the scope was as wide as any ever tried in this country; for upon its decision one hundred thousand persons were made citizens. Mr. Tibbles, who attended every session of the court, describes what took place, in the following words from that time: "The courtroom was crowded with fashionably dressed women; and the clergy, which had been greatly stirred by the incident, were there in force. Lawyers, every one in Nebraska, and many from the big Eastern cities; business men; General Crook and

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

his staff in their dress uniforms (this was one of the few times in his life that Crook wore full dress in public); and the Indians themselves, in their gaudy..." at that time, which meant bright, "colors. The courtroom was a galaxy of brilliancy. One side the army officers, the brilliantly dressed women, and the white people; on the other was Standing Bear, in his official robes as chief of the Poncas, and with him were his leading men. Far back in the audience, shrinking from observation, was an Indian girl, who afterward became famous as a lecturer in England and America. She was later known on both continents by a translation of her Indian name, In-sta-the-am-ba, Bright Eyes. Attorney Poppleton's argument was carefully prepared, and consumed sixteen hours in the delivering, occupying attention in the court for two days. On the third day Mr. Webster spoke for six hours. And during all the proceedings, the court room was packed with the beauty and culture of the city. Toward the close of the trial, the situation became tense. As the wrongs inflicted on the Indians were described by the attorneys, indignation was often at white heat, and the judge made no attempt to suppress the applause which broke out from time to time. For the department, Mr. Lambertson made a short address, but was listened to in complete silence. It was late in the afternoon when the trial drew to a close. The excitement had been increasing, but it reached a height not before attained when Judge Dundy announced that Chief Standing Bear would be allowed to make a speech in his own behalf. Not one in the audience besides the army officers and Mr. Tibbles had ever heard an oration by an Indian. All of them had read of the eloquence of Red Jacket and Logan, and they sat there wondering if the mild-looking old man, with the lines of suffering and sorrow on his brow and cheek, dressed in the full robes of an Indian chief, could make a speech at all. It happened that there was a good interpreter present--one who was used to 'chief talk.' Standing Bear arose. Half facing the audience, he held out his right hand, and stood motionless so long that the stillness of death which had settled down on the audience, became almost unbearable." And today we have our first Native American present to be able to read those words of Standing Bear. "At last, looking up at the judge, he said:..." and I would like to be able to have Senator Brewer speak now, please.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Brewer, you're recognized.

SENATOR BREWER: "That hand is not the color of yours, but if I prick it, the blood will flow, and I shall feel pain. The blood is of the same color as yours. God made me, and I am a man. I never committed any crime. If I had, I would not stand here to make a defense. I would suffer the punishment and make no complaint."

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: "Still standing half facing the audience, he looked past the judge, out of the window, as if gazing upon something far in the distance, and continued."

SENATOR BREWER: "I seem to be standing on this high bank of a great river, with my wife and my little girl by my side. I cannot cross the river, and impassable cliffs arise behind me. I

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

hear the noise of the great waters; I look, and see a flood coming. The waters rise to our feet, and then to our knees. My little girl stretches her hands toward me and says, "save me." I stand where no member of my race ever stood before. There is no tradition to guide me. The chiefs who preceded me knew nothing of the circumstances that surround me. I hear only my little girl say, "save me." In despair I look toward the cliffs behind me, and I seem to see a dim trail that may lead to a way of life. But no Indian ever passes over this trail. It looks to be impassable. I make the attempt. I take my child by the hand, and my wife follows after me. Our hands and our feet are torn by the sharp rocks, and the trail is marked by our blood. At last I see a rift in the rocks. A little way beyond there are green prairies. The swift-running water, the Niobrara, pours down between the green hills. There are the graves of our fathers. There again we will pitch our teepees and build our fires. I see the light of the world and of liberty just ahead."

SENATOR PANSINGS BROOKS: "The old chief became silent again, and, after an appreciable pause, he turned toward the judge with such a look of pathos and suffering on his face that none who saw it will forget it, and said:"

SENATOR BREWER: "But in the center of the path there stands a man. Behind him I see soldiers in number like the leaves of the trees. If that man gives me the permission, I may pass on to life and liberty. If he refuses, I must go back and sink beneath the flood."

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: "Then in a lower tone,..."

SENATOR BREWER: "You are that man."

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: "There was silence in the court as the old chief sat down. Tears ran down over the judge's face. General Crook leaned forward and covered his face with his hands. Some of the ladies sobbed. All at once that audience, by one common impulse, rose to its feet, and such a shout went up as was never heard in a Nebraska court room. No one heard Judge Dundy say, 'Court is dismissed.' There was a rush for Standing Bear. The first to reach him was General Crook. I was the second." I, meaning Tibbles, who wrote this. "The ladies flocked around him, and for an hour Standing Bear had a reception. A few days afterward Judge Dundy" Omaha District Federal Judge Dundy "handed down his famous decision, in which he announced that a Indian was a 'person,' and was entitled to the protection of the law. Standing Bear and his followers were set free; and, with his old wagon and the body of his dead child, he went back to the hunting-grounds of his fathers, and buried the body with tribal honors." Thank you, Mr. President. I think that's a wonderful story to tell prior to our celebration of our great state tomorrow. Thank you.

SENATOR LINDSTROM PRESIDING

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks and Senator Brewer. Mr. Clerk, items for the record?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Your committee on the Health and Human Services reports LB283 to General File; LB91 to General File with amendments. New resolution: LR50 by Senator Krist, that will be laid over. And a priority bill designation: Senator Hilgers has chosen LB68. That's all I have at this time. [LB283 LB91 LR50 LB68]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Mr. Clerk, for a motion?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Chambers would move to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.

SENATOR LINDSTROM: This is a voice vote, motion to adjourn. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. The nays have it. We will not adjourn. Mr. Clerk, we will now proceed to General File, LB46A. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President. LB46A, introduced by Senator Watermeier. (Read title.) [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Watermeier, you're recognized to open on LB46A. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning again, Nebraska. It's hard to trump what Senator Pansing Brooks and Senator Brewer just witnessed here in front of me today. That was amazing. I appreciate that. Mr. President and members of the body, the A bill before us, LB46A, would appropriate \$9,631 from the Motor Vehicles Cash Fund to the Department of Motor Vehicles to modify the vehicle titling and registration plate management and computer systems to accommodate the new license plates. This is in regards to LB46, the bill that we just passed. So with that, I would look for your green vote on LB46A. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Mr. Clerk, we have an amendment. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would offer FA28. (Legislative Journal page 564.) [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Chambers, you're welcome to open on FA28. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, to be sure, is this the one that would strike those lines, designated lines? [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: "Strike lines 5-7". [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Before I take up this amendment, let me explain something to the white people in this room. What you all heard was a performance. What I heard was a religious observation, a declaration that people who prior to that trial were the unpeople, the nonpeople, and when Senators Pansing Brooks, Senator Brewer completed, you all clapped like you were at a show at a performance to be entertained. You will never understand the import of those words. There is nothing that we have to do which is so important that it should detract from what we heard this morning. And that's why I offered the motion to adjourn. There's a black woman named Billie Holiday and she had what they called a signature song called "Strange Fruit" and I've quoted the words before but I won't today because you all would not understand them. But it was so poignant, it was so moving that at any performance that she gave, nothing followed that song. And after people listened to what the words were, there was never any applause. Billie Holiday would come onto the stage. The room would be cloaked in darkness. A spotlight was on Billie Holiday and she wore a white camellia and everybody knew when that song was completed, the show was over. Nothing followed it. Even white people caught on. But here, unless white people are instructed about what it is they're hearing and it doesn't involve white people, they fail to understand. The white men who wrote those words, being a white man, was trying to do it in such a way as to reach the minds and the hearts if you will of his kind, his kind. You don't know whether that translator was translating accurately or not. You don't know whether words were provided which were designed to achieve the result that they did. So that's the way things that mean a great deal to others are considered in this Chamber. Even though not many of you come here, whenever in the morning you have what you call a prayer people stand in an attitude, whether they feel it or mean it or not, an attitude of reverence and respect because that which pertains to white people, even though perfunctory, is going forth and everybody behaves in the way they are supposed to. You all don't listen to us. You don't care about us. When Standing Bear mentioned the color of his blood, if it flowed, that was designed to tell you all something. We know these things already. We have to put it in words where you can identify with it. And for a brief time, if at no other time, you will understand what a man who is a man, whether you acknowledge it or not, was trying to make you understand what it means to be a man in his situation. I watch you all. I pay attention to what you do when your guard is down. Applause was the appropriate thing based on how things traditionally are done. The motion by a black man to say nothing else should follow was rejected--no surprise to me. But I want that as a matter of record because I will describe what happened here on other occasions in other places. And now that that has been taken care of, I'm going to get back to the

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

business that you all want to deal with. I'm going to read for you the lines that are being stricken by my amendment. Oh, you all didn't know that an A bill was subject to motions and amendment? It's up to a black man to teach his betters about their rules, about their legislation? You're not getting away easily this morning. And I told you what I intended to do, no ambush today. On page 2, lines 5-7 would be stricken pursuant to my amendment and these are the words that would be stricken: "No expenditures for permanent and temporary salaries and per diems for state employees shall be made from funds appropriated in this section." This is carrying out what I promised to do. And you know why I have to carry it out today? Tomorrow is not promised to us. The next minute is not promised. So I have to do what I intend to do at this time. You're not going to vote in favor of this amendment. So what will happen? I will speak to open. I will speak twice on the amendment. I will speak to close. I'll ask for a call of the house. I'll ask for a roll call vote. And this amendment will lose. Then I will offer motion to reconsider. I have other amendments that I'm going to offer to this bill. Oh, you all gave your message with that cloture vote. You did what Senator Watermeier and the pro-life people required. You did what the Speaker wanted you to do in the interest of facilitating action this morning, moving ahead at flank speed. But that's not going to happen. You're going to move this morning at my pace unless, as I stated earlier, I can force the Speaker to stand up there and get all these white people to go along with him and say we're not going to do this morning what the rules say we should do. I explained how the Speaker was going to cut short the amount of time that all of you will be given on General File. But the rules are the rules. There's no black man, there's no native American, there's no Latino, nobody who is from a Pacific Rim nation who does not know how white people can behave... [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...when they have everything their way. We can see it in your so-called president. But people like me are going to make you show what you are, not only today but on other days. Your Speaker is going to have to be the front man for what you all are. Let him do it to me. And he's going to do it the rest of the session. And I believe I can take it longer than you can because I've dealt with you all, all of my life. I have never been in the majority and I'm accustomed to this role. And I will not do like some Italians, carry the load for white people, do the dirty work in the Legislature thinking that they will be viewed as anything other than brand X white people. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Hansen, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, I just wanted to rise and kind of put an on-the-record notice that we are establishing new precedent this year in terms of cloture



Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

votes and how, as Senator Chambers likes to call it, extended debate and other people tend to refer to them as filibusters happen. By my counts and I'd confirmed this with some of the Clerk's staff, the traditional six hours of debate would have been right before noon. It would have been about 11:58 I believe. And instead, we are obviously more than an hour away from that. We've taken the cloture and moved on. That's something that obviously the Speaker has discretion of and that the past, the 8, 4, 2 standard and this year I believe it's a 6, 3, 1.5 standard is something that is not explicitly in the rule book and is something we can change and adjust on the floor. However, by my knowledge, this is the first time in at least my tenure, I can't speak before that, where we've had a cloture motion kind of happen well before one of those motions. Now obviously if...I don't necessarily know if the timing of that would have changed the final vote. It certainly seems like most, if not everyone, was here or everyone who was passionate on the issue was here. But that's something we as a body just need to monitor and be aware of. Obviously it can cut in our benefit one day and cut against us another depending on what side of the issue we find ourselves on. So that's something I wanted to make sure that we raised before the body and just have a comment on and I'd welcome anybody else who wanted to get up and share their thoughts on it. I don't necessarily know if shortening the amount of time before cloture will reduce the number of cloture votes or frankly it might increase the number of cloture because you're frankly lessening the difficulty, lessening the standard. That's probably a historical perspective that I personally lack. However, I do know that that was something we haven't done before. I wanted to make sure that that was just, without necessarily pushing a lot of judgment on it, was just noted for the body and noted for the people watching that that is kind of a new practice, that's something we as a body I believe will have to kind of monitor going forward to make sure that is implemented fairly. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Thank you, Senator Hansen. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Louis XIV said l'etat, c'est moi: I am the state. That's what your Speaker just told you docile, compliant, weak people. And we're going to see if it achieves what he told you or led you to believe it would achieve. Why do you invoke cloture? To cut off debate in the hope that time will be saved. You think the Speaker felt he was going to save any time this morning when we were only going to be here until noon anyway? It was to show what he intends to do and to see if you're going to swallow spit, roll over, and accept it. And he knew that the one to use it on was a black man. Now he may not consciously have done this, but he's a white man and if he's observed anything, he's observed that the white racists who run the government will sharpen their tools of oppression on black people. They will invade houses without a warrant. White people don't care because it's black people. If there happens to be what is called a civil rights lawyer who will take the case, the courts will have the arguments and what the oppressors learn during that period of argument is how to refine what it is they have done, the kind of legal challenges that will be made and they continue these

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

practice runs against black people, demonstrations by black people, rubber bullets, tear gas, horses being run against people, dogs set on people, and white people didn't care. They cheered it. That's the way we should be treated with. But the oppressor has something bigger in mind than black people. There are white people that he is going to want to control and he conditions white people to accept these things as the normal way of doing things. And when he unleashes it on white people, there will be some who will suddenly say the chickens are coming home to roost and make an outcry. Some of you all know what the term Ruby Ridge refers to. I don't believe Senator Groene even knows that--Ruby Ridge. Does anybody remember who the Davidians were in Texas and what the government did to them? There were a few people who objected. But the oppressor had conditioned the people at large to accept these kinds of things. So Speakers in the past have sharpened their tools on me. Not expecting to be able to control me. You think some pipsqueak white mouse can control an enraged black panther? Absolutely not. But in trying to address that panther, he or she learns how to deal with other white mice and that's where the concern is--not what the panther will do because panthers don't eat mice, panthers have a larger prey. But the white mice will be controlled by that white mouse who understands them and is one of them. So today he saw you roll over. And I'm going to watch and see how many times this will be done. Maybe now that I'm saying this... [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...he won't do it again and maybe he will. But I'll have plenty of things to say to defeat what he did. I say again, there was much talk--I would call it yapping, yackety-yakking--about freedom of speech for that license plate. Then you cut off speech in this assembly where speaking is all that we do, because you were trying to silence the one whom everybody will agree ought to be silenced. But who is talking now? Who has control of the rest of the morning? Who, if he decides to, can control every day for the rest of the session? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. You're next in the queue and this is your third time. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I can now speak in measured tones because I'm not trying to change your mind on anything. I'm not trying to persuade you of anything. In fact, I'm challenging you. Although it may not be in a mocking tone, I'm mocking you. I am taunting you by letting you know there is nothing you can do about what I'm doing unless you're going to completely throw everything that you call your rules aside. I've told you, just let me know what your rules are and I will play by them and what I'm doing now is by your rules. But your Speaker has shown you that even when the black man is playing by your rules, he'll change them on his own and these white people, the noble ones, the master race, will go along with it. You think Trump doesn't know what you all are? You think he doesn't know that he can get away

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

with what he's doing? Trump and I, if we chose to team up, control this country. He'd take the East Coast. And I'll take everything west of New York and we'd control it. Just like the Pope and Billy Graham probably got together at one point and the Pope told Billy, Billy, you take that side of the Atlantic. I will take this side and we will divide the world between us and neither of us will ever attack the other. And they reached an accord. How do you all know that didn't happen? You'd hope that it didn't. But just look at the record. What I'm going to do today is what I told you I was going to do. And for Senator Lowe, who every now and then looks back here to see what's going on, how many times did the Speaker fall into what I wanted? Three times: He referred to my friend Senator "Wiseheart" as Senator "Wiseheart." Three times the Speaker said Senator "Wiseheart." Do you see the influence that I have even when I'm not trying to exert it by telling you? I just do it and it happens without me telling you. So it would be easy for me to control this Legislature. For 30 days, you played into my hands. I told you I wanted to get us down to a 60-day session, didn't I? But none of you could envision 30 days of doing nothing because you don't know how to observe and understand what is happening and what you see. How many days should I tell you in advance that I will take so that you can't do what you want to do? I'm not going to tell you. One thing I really liked about Malcolm X, I don't know if every one of you got a copy of the book that Senator Wayne handed out, but Malcolm was a man who understood white people very well. And white people would try to outsmart him and they couldn't. It reached a point where none of them would debate him. So they invited him to Oxford in England to have a debate because those white people were not afraid of ideas as white men were because the ideas that were being attacked had to do with oppression, repression, suppression... [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...by white men in a country that called itself the land of the free and the home of the brave. And Malcolm was well received. But people knew when he was going to invoke the quietus because there was this look in his eye and a slow smile would go across his face and the quarry which thought it was the predator said, uh oh, the tables have been turned. That's the kind of man Malcolm was and it was why they had to kill him. And they were able to get people of Malcolm's own race to do the job. The traitors have always been members of the race they turned on or they could not have been the filler of the role of traitor. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Wishart, you are now recognized. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR WISHART: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Chambers, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: For you, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: So, I am looking at this amendment and you strike lines 5-7 and you read that to us. Why is that section in these A bills? Why do we include that in this A bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I don't explain other people's bills. I think Senator Watermeier should be able to handle that. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Okay. Well, Senator Chambers, why did you decide to remove this section of the A bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because I need to be able to find language that I can strike immediately with an amendment. So the easiest thing was to strike all three of those. Then I have some more fine-tuned amendments that would deal with those three lines. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Okay. Thank you. Senator Watermeier, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Watermeier, would you yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Senator Watermeier, can you explain a little bit why this last...the lines 5-7 are included in this A bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: I looked it up when Senator Chambers had brought the amendment and I actually checked with Fiscal. And there would be a possibility that you could run without this, but it is I think...I'm going to explain it in the fact it gets back to PSL which we debate all the time in Appropriations. I just hate to meddle with that because it's been a process in which they leave in these A bills like that so that funds would not be appropriated...it talks about salaries and benefits. I think it's a common thing that they have in most A bills. So that's the best answer I can give you today, Senator. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR WISHART: Okay, thank you. With that, I'll yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Chambers, you're yielded 3:12. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator "Wiseheart." And you know what this lesson is here today? They do things because they've always been done. That's why they do it. You all were not here when Senator Raikes was here. And he was a man who died in a farm accident and a man for whom I had a tremendous amount of respect, genuine respect. And I thought of him in the terms that other people would describe by the word "friend." And we would often talk. And one time he said on the floor of the Legislature the argument that people give to a new idea takes the following form. Two arguments they give: Well, it's never been done that way, argument one; it's always been done this way, argument two. And that's what I run into around here. It's never been done that way and we've always done it this way. And we're white and that's how things are done. If it's going to be changed, we'll change it. Well, change the rules on me. That will show how much I own you. If I'm a "cummanist" as the ignorant white Americans refer to communists, if I were a "cummanist" in Russia and I said, we will bury you and you say we counterpose something to communism--you'd say "cummanism." We believe in democracy, all these things that they don't believe in. But when I say I'm going to bury you, what greater victory can I have than to make you change your constitution openly and everything that you say you believe in that makes you different from me? That means I own you. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So when I can make you change your rules, I own this Legislature. That's how I show I own the Legislature. I make you violate what you say means something to you. Your rules that you adopted, and you did all that arguing the so-called filibuster bill as you call it and you saw him cut it on his own. You saw him do it and you went along with it. Those of you who said you didn't want to reduce the number of votes, you went along with him. That's why I wanted a record vote--to show how you all don't think beyond the moment. Where was that 17? They had 36 votes up there for cloture that was invoked by one man, the strong man, and I use that term advisedly, strong man because of the power you gave to him and he used it and he whipped you, with it. But the one who was supposed to be struck down is standing here while you all sit. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR LINDSTROM: That was your third time. Seeing no one else in the queue, Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your amendment. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Now you know why those three lines are in these kind of A bills, regardless of the A bill. It could be an A bill spending 20 cents. How much salary to a permanent or temporary employee can you give out of 20 cents or \$20 or \$1,000? But those words have to be there. That's the abracadabra. It's always been done this way, it's never been done that way, and you don't think about that. Senator "Wiseheart" has gained from me the term because she asks questions. She didn't know and she wanted to know, so she asked the question. And those are the people who bring about changes. They make people stop. And things that were taken for granted so long, they are no longer remarkable. That's just the way it always was. Then somebody with fresh eyes will say, but wait a minute, we are intelligent people. We do things for a reason. We have a goal to be achieved. We try to use the means at our disposal to achieve that goal. The purpose of this bill, the A bill, is to appropriate money. Well, as I read the bill I see something in it that I don't understand why it's there, so I'm going to ask, and who could have given the answer? Senator Watermeier had to go look it up because he saw what I offered. I teach you people against your will. I made him go look it up. He knows something that he didn't know before I started talking on his A bill. I taught him something about his A bill, and Senator "Wiseheart" caused that information to be shared with all of you. She participated in your instruction this morning and she just came here, a new person. You can learn from everybody if you've got sense enough to open your mind. That's why you don't learn anything from me. You dislike me so much you close your mind, a metal shield slides across your brain and you don't listen. And you don't think I know that? You think I don't know how to provoke you and make you sit and be quiet or go off to the side and have your loud conversations to show me the disrespect you have for me? You think I don't know that? You think I'm not aware of everything that goes on around me in this place. Why can I bring up things that you all never thought of? It doesn't take a genius to do it. It's because I think and you all don't. It's as simple as that, and Senator "Wiseheart" is going to teach you all some things. If there's something in a bill that you don't understand, ask a question. This white person raised her hand and she was going to address a question to Malcolm X and she had been intimidated like a lot of white people were. I was described as an astonishingly articulate black nationalist or whatever, and I pointed out it's astonishing because they don't believe a black man can put ten words together and make sense. That's why they were astonished. But she raised her hand and in a quavering voice said, this might be a foolish question, and Malcolm stopped her. He said, the only foolish question is the question that is not asked, and she asked her question. And that's what I say. You're not just here to spout and show people how you can control Ernie Chambers, which you cannot do. It's to help teach those of us who don't know what you know, and if you've got sense enough, to learn... [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...what we can teach you that you don't know. But your mind is closed. You will leave here knowing no more when you leave than you knew when you came here. You think you're smart but you're not. When you go to all these lobby functions, you think they respect you? Did they ever invite you to it before you got in the Legislature? Will they invite you when you're no longer in the Legislature? You are a tool. They use you and you're so flattered. I couldn't even get a proposal out the--what do you call that group that runs the Legislature when we're not in session?--the Executive Board. They don't even want to put out here for debate a bill I have to stop you all from being fed by the lobbyists during the session. They don't even want that discussed and they're talking about transparency. But we're going to discuss it this session. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: The question is, shall the amendment to LB46A be adopted? All those in favor...excuse me. There's been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 23 ayes, 4 nays to go under call, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. Those unexcused senators outside the Chamber please return to the Chamber and record your presence. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. The house is under call. Senator Linehan, would you please check in. Senators Hughes, Stinner, Ebke, Bolz, Pansing Brooks, Wayne, Murante, and Halloran, the house is under call. Senators Stinner, Wayne, and Halloran, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. All the members are accounted for. The question is, shall the amendment to LB46A be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, there's been a request for a roll call vote. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal pages 564-565.) Vote is 0 ayes, 33 nays, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: The amendment fails. Mr. Clerk. Please raise the call. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken as it relates to FA28. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the Legislature. You all would have the last laugh on me if the world came to an end tonight, wouldn't you, so I couldn't continue this tomorrow? But there's nothing and nobody who would end the world to teach me or anybody else a lesson. There is no such. I would ask a question, but nobody probably would take the bait. Is there a Christian in the house? Senator Clements, would you answer a question? Would you yield to a question? We have one Christian. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Clements, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: Yes, I would. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Clements, Jesus spoke twice on the cross. What are the nine words he spoke the first time? [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: I don't recall. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you ever know? [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: I have read it, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you. Is there...thank you, Senator Clements. That's all that I have. Everybody is wondering. You know what Jesus said? If you deny me before men, I will deny you before my father. You're going to come trotting up there on judgment day and think because you ask those prayers in the Legislature every day that I'm going to acknowledge you. Well, because you all understand things when they're spoken analogously or metaphorically, let me put it to you like this. You are Colonel Sanders and I'm the chicken. Now, Colonel Sanders, what is it that you want to ask this chicken? That's what Jesus is going to say. He said...you didn't...I'm going to give you another chance. Is there a Christian in the house? I see one. Senator Bolz, would you answer a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Bolz, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOLZ: Most certainly, Senator Chambers. [LB46A]



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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bolz, what are the words Jesus uttered the first time that he spoke? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOLZ: I don't know. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, that's wrong. Thank you. She tried. She tried. [LB46A]

SENATOR BOLZ: Too late. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you are on a trapeze, I am the catcher, and Senator Bolz is the one who's going to fly through the air, and we swing toward each other and she releases her hold and comes this way and there's...the distance between my hands and her hands is a millionth of an inch. That's all the space. But if we don't make contact, she falls. But she gets a gold star for trying. The ones who are rewarded are not only those who succeed as people reckon success, but those who are willing to stand to put forth the effort to see if they can do it. So the one who tries and fails is worthy of more than the one who tries and succeeds because the one who succeeds knows and knows that he or she is going to succeed, so there's no risk. The one who tries knows there's a risk but is willing to risk failure to try to achieve a worthwhile go. Don't you all think of anything? I saw another hand of a Christian sitting over there. Would you answer a question if...Senator... [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Geist, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR GEIST: I would. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Geist, I can tell with the way you stood, the way you walked authoritatively to that mike and the way you answered and looked at me without wavering you know the answer. [LB46A]

SENATOR GEIST: I think I do. It's nine words. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's wrong. (Laugh) [LB46A]

SENATOR GEIST: No, it's: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's wrong--why hast thou--but you were close enough, you get an A for that. Is there a Christian in the house because there was another time Jesus spoke? Is

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

there...we got two...three Christians in the house. Is there another Christian in the house? I have a Christian here. Would...oh, wait a minute. Senator Brewer, would you respond to a question, please? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Brewer, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR BREWER: Anything for him. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brewer, do you take my word for it that Jesus spoke another time while on the cross? [LB46A]

SENATOR BREWER: He did. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What did he say that second time? [LB46A]

SENATOR BREWER: It is done. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Nope. Close, but no cigar. Senator Blood...it was very close. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Blood, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: I would, but now I'm puzzled because there was the forgive them, father. They know not what they do. And I have to say that I'm stuck so I'm hoping that Senator Chambers, with all his wisdom, will help me get the phrase correct. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Since we're using the same mike, my child. [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: I feel like we're singing a duet. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So there would be three times that Jesus spoke. [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: Right. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But I did narrow it by saying there were three words. What are those three words? And Senator Brewer was very close, very close, that millionth of an inch. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR BLOOD: Everybody is looking it up on their phones, so I know everybody in here knows what it is. And maybe somebody else will help me. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I bet they don't know. [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: The wonders of Google, I bet they do. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, you may take your seat. (Laugh) [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: Thank you, sir. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brewer was close. It is finished. And the reason I didn't accept it is done, Senator Brewer, they don't listen very closely here, and they would think I asked you about an egg after its been frying in the grease for a certain amount of time. What would you say about it? And you'd say, it is done. But, see, we weren't speaking about an egg frying. And there was one other time that words allegedly were spoken, so although Senator Blood did not get a star on this one, she would get one for pointing out that there was a third time and she told you what that was. And now I would ask Senator Blood if she would answer a question. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Senator Blood, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Blood, if you approximated even you'll win this one, what was it that was said the third time? And this to me is the most important. [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: It's a trick question. Yes, I would yield. And forgive them, they know not what they do. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Forgive them, for they know not what they do. That was a long way around to get you all's interest, but that's what I want to say. I overlook a lot that you all do because you don't know what you're doing. You are aware of the act that you are placing, but you don't recognize the full significance of it, so you know in a superficial sense what you're doing, but you don't really know what you're doing. You don't even know what was done this morning, even though I tried to tell you. But the morning is mine. I will have 25 minutes on this reconsideration motion. I have another amendment that I'm going to offer. I get 25 minutes to speak on it, 25 minutes on my reconsideration motion, and the morning is gone. Was it worth this for to you teach me a lesson at the hands of the Speaker? [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR LINDSTROM: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you win? What does win mean? Was it a Pyrrhic victory where you do win that encounter but you expend so much of your resources that when a more significant battle comes you lose that and lose the war? That's what a Pyrrhic victory is. You win the battle and lose the war. You expend so much to win this battle because that's one of the tactics. It's not the strategy that you're looking at. You focus on this tactic which is a part of a greater strategy of the one who's going to win the war. We'll sacrifice these people. We'll sacrifice these ships. But you're going to sacrifice a lot more because you don't have that much to waste, and you're going to lose and I'm going to win ultimately, and it's too bad we're in a you-loose, I-win or I-lose and you-win, but that's where we are now in this legislative session. And you all have some time to talk about it. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR LINDSTROM: Thank you, Senators Bolz, Brewer, Geist, Chambers, and Blood. Senator Chambers, you're next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I haven't even finished the time speaking on this proposal that's up there now. I enjoy what I'm doing superficially. But you know why I don't enjoy it deep down? Because it says so much that's lacking in this Legislature and how hard it's going to be for us to do our work, how shallow the thinking is or there's no thinking, how much ideology rules here. You think that license plate means anything to me? Why, these pro-life people have put insulting words toward the U.S. Supreme Court in the statute books and that makes them feel good. They won. They can demean the Supreme Court of the United States in the Nebraska statutes to show how much power they have over these chuckleheads who sit in this Legislature. And that makes them feel good. But it tells me something about the poor stuff that I've got to contend with and try to work with while we're supposed to be doing what Senator Brasch always calls the people's business. But as I say, you're all my children. You're hard headed. You're fractious, you're disobedient. You're stiff necked. So it's going to take something to break through all of that, open your minds so that you will learn and so that you will give of what you really know. You've got to know better things than what you've done here. I don't know if there's a city in this state that doesn't have traffic lights. If you were as dumb in walking around your city as you are here, you would have gotten run over by a car. You don't have sense enough to know which light to cross the street on. But I know you're smarter than that or you wouldn't be here. But you came here for a different purpose and I'm going to try to remind you of what it is. And I've got to do it, as Frank Sinatra said, my way. And I'll do it my way because

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

you will not have it any other way. Children are easier to instruct than you are because children are curious and they absorb and it doesn't become a contest. See, some of you all pledged to come down here and put me in my place and control me. How in the world is it going to look if you wind up voting with me after that was the very thing you used to get into this office? It's a hard job. I notice what my colleagues wear. How many of you all heard of the Four Seasons, the group that sings? The Jersey Boys, did they call them, is that what they called them? And they did a stage show, and one of them had the name Frankie Valli. And it wasn't spelled V-a-l-l-e-y. And he sang with a falsetto. And one of his songs was Sherry...I'm not going to try...Sherry baby, come out tonight. Sherry with your red dress on. Sherry, oh, you look so fine. Sherry, moving nice and easy, girl, you make me lose my mind. I would ask Senator Crawford a question, but I don't think I will. But note how she is attired, note her garb this morning, how inspired I was and am by my colleagues one way or the other. I watch you all. I listen to you all, and I can tell by the resigned look on your faces and your attitudes while you sit that you've conceded the rest of the morning to me. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES PRESIDING

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And I intend not to disappoint you. I'm going to take that time. And remember this, this bill is going to be before us tomorrow. And I can reoffer my motions tomorrow or other motions. But whenever there is a figure in a bill, amendments can be offered to change that amount, so you know what I'm going to force? I'm going to force your Speaker to shut me up again on General File on a bill. And he and Senator Watermeier will be in cahoots and they'll show the power. Really this is the power of the pro-life lobby. They brought this on. I'm not controlling the Legislature, they are. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Seeing no one else in the queue, you're welcomed to close on your amendment. Oh, your light is on now. Senator Chambers, this is your third time. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Here is how the pro-life people are controlling the Legislature. They know which of my buttons to push to cause me to do what I'm doing, in the same way that water runs downhill. They know that by ordering Senator Watermeier to bring this bill so that he'll be a good pro-lifer, that I was going to react in the way that I'm reacting. So this

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

that you're getting is at the behest of the pro-life lobby. And you see how they get things done, don't you? They're bringing us all together, not dividing us, because you are in cahoots with me, and you're going to tell the Speaker, shut him up tomorrow, and the Speaker can do it. He'll just say, we're going to have a cloture vote. And when that motion is made it's not even debatable. So he will have done it twice while we're on a pro-life issue, which is what you all want, what dictates to you, and in a sense it dictates to me. But I enjoy my part in this whole thing and I assure you I will do as I said I will do, not like some of you all who say something then you back out. This that we have before us is a reconsideration motion. The original motion was to strike those lines about none of the money being appropriated in this bill going for the salaries or per diems of permanent or temporary employees. And you got to put that in this bill. I think for the edification and the enlightenment of those who might be watching us, it'd be good to let them know how much money we're talking about. "There is hereby appropriated \$9,631", \$9,631, why, you can't even hire a senator for that. What permanent employee is going to take a salary of \$9,631? Nobody. What temporary employee would be offered something as piddling and insulting as that? So the words are nugatory. They're nullity. Why even have them in the bill? Because it's always been done that way. It's never been done this way. So you use the formula. I'm the magician. This is the hat. Abracadabra. Abracadabra is not magic, but by saying abracadabra I can reach in the hat and produce a pen. And the little children will say, wow. And they go home saying, abracadabra and they don't produce the pen so they don't think they're magic. I have...and I can use my time as I please to try to teach a lesson. Now I have some coins in my pocket. I wish Senator Briese was here and I'd make him a little wager. I have a real shiny quarter in my hand, and a real shiny penny in my hand. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I have a case in which I put eyeglasses. I'm going to put the shiny penny in. You heard it fall. I'm going to put the shiny quarter in. Missed it. You're paying attention now. But I got another one. You know how magicians have to distract you. And I might have to wait until closing to do it. But I'm going to let you see that the penny is still there. They say that a magician has to have a line of conversation. They call it patter. But since my time is up, I'll probably have to finish this on my closing. How much time do I have, Mr. President? [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: 20 seconds. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I think I'll donate that to the Chair to show I'm in a collegial mood. Thank you. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Seeing no one else in the queue, you're welcomed to close on your amendment. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Briese, I'm going to do a magic trick. Do you think I will be...oh. He learned. Here's the shiny penny. I'm dropping it in the eyeglass case. This time I'm dropping a quarter in the eyeglass case. And this time I'm not going to drop the quarter on the floor. I'm dropping a quarter in the eyeglass case. I close it. Now I open it. Abracadabra. I changed the penny into a quarter. I changed the quarter into a penny. Magic. That's the way a lot of things are in this world, my teacher. Sometimes the student can become a teacher. What did I say I was going to do this morning? Take time and that's what I'm doing. It is now 11:37. If we round it up to 11:40 that means we have no more than 20 minutes before we're going to adjourn. And my teacher...I put on my specks so that I can have that scholarly look. And what I intend to do while I'm talking is put another motion on the desk. That woke some people up. See, magicians, they...more is involved in magic than the trick. I can take 50 minutes on that next motion: 25 when I speak on it and nobody need utter a word, 10 minutes to open, 5 to speak, that's 15, 5 more to speak, that's 20, 5 minutes to close, that's 25 minutes. And the morning is gone. I sure got tricked this morning, didn't I? You think I thought I could stop that pro-life bill from passing? Do you really think I thought that? What was gained this morning for your side? Nothing, nothing. Where did the time go? There are old people who look back over their life with regret, and they would say, the many hours, the many days, the many years have all slipped away. Where did they go? How could I arrive where I am now? That's the way of the world. And it's the way of the existential universe. Everything is going to get old if it stays around long enough. You won this morning. You can tell the Governor he succeeded because he put together a coalition that put me in my place. I concede defeat. You won. You got a cloture vote. But as I always say when I'm talking to big people who try to intimidate me because I'm small, you might get a banquet, but I'm going to get a sandwich. You all got your banquet when you got your cloture vote. I'm getting my sandwich now. And a sandwich is smaller than a banquet. So this morning is mine. How much of tomorrow morning will be mine? How are you going to stop me? [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You can't, but you don't believe. Oh, ye of little faith. I say what Jesus told his disciples. They wouldn't believe if one came back from the dead. They won't believe. They see it, but they don't believe it. You hear me, but you don't believe I mean what I say and you don't believe I can do what I say I'm going to do. I like being here. I'm earning my money. When these people out there see me, they're watching their tax dollar at work. I'm working. And I've worked a little bit of magic this morning. And I also am delivering on a promise that I made to you, that the time today is going to be mine, and it is. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Chambers. The question shall be...the question is, shall the amendment to LB46A be adopted? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? There's been a request for a record vote. Mr. Clerk, please record. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 565-566.) Vote is 2 ayes, 24 nays on the motion to reconsider, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: The motion to reconsider fails. Mr. Clerk, you have items. The next motion, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion, Senator Chambers would move to indefinitely postpone LB46A. Senator Watermeier would have the opportunity to lay the bill over or take the motion up. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Senator Watermeier. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Take it up right now, please. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is that motion that's going to carry us across the finish line. How many minutes do you have to add to 43 to get to 60? A little thought problem--add 7 and that makes it 50, and then how much does it take to get from 50 to 60? And add the two together. But by the time you get through it's going to be 10 minutes. But I can easily take us to adjournment time. And guess what I'm going to do tomorrow: second verse, same as the first. Thank Senator Watermeier for mastering me in this masterful way this morning. See what he's making me do. He's making me deliver on a promise that to be completely honest with you I would rather not have made, but my hand was forced. And this is what you do if you're contesting with somebody and you think that somebody is just bluffing. And maybe I was. Maybe I'm bluffing now. Maybe I can't carry us until adjournment, but I think that I can. And I will be refreshed tomorrow. Wonderful things will happen between now and then. And to quote your so-called President, some amazing things will happen, and I will have talked to some wonderful people, and there will have been some of the most astonishing conversations and they will have produced some of the most outstanding results that anybody could have ever imagined. And this is really a totally, wonderful, amazing, glorious, marvelous experience that we will have had. And I think every one of you can say, and I hope



Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

my teacher will be pleased with this way of expressing it, I think they will all say this morning they have experienced the most "experienceful" experience they have ever experienced. I practice. I try to improve, and I think I am. Earlier today I was in kind of a sour mood because I saw the Legislature being controlled by outsiders. Then it occurred to me. When has that not been the case? And I rejoined to myself. There's an expression: Hope springs eternal in the human breast. Is it hoping against hope that the Legislature at some point will recognize the nature of the organization, the power that it wields, for good or evil, and decide that whatever shots are fired will be called by those who comprise the Legislature or a majority? Is that too much to hope for? Realistically, it certainly is. No political body which is filled with people who get there by way of election can ever be completely free because money controls. The hand that feeds controls. Money talks, and it can speak in a whisper when it's beguiling you into doing what it wants you to do. But then if you get uppity and think that you have some freedom, some discretion, that's when the whisper becomes a snarl. And if that's not enough, it becomes a shout. You know how you got here and the same thing that brought you here can take you out. And then you remember what your role is that you voluntarily assumed but not completely voluntarily. Something as voluntarily only if a person understands everything that's entailed in what the agreement consists of. That's why when somebody is waiving a right in court, a person has to voluntarily, willingly, and knowingly waive a right. To knowingly waive the right doesn't mean you just know you're saying the words. It means you know what the right is, what it consists of, and knowing this you, without coercion, voluntarily relinquish that right. You knowingly give it up. And if those conditions are met, a court can accept a guilty plea. But a court is not always bound to accept a guilty plea. You cannot compel the court because all the court has to say is I don't think you really know what you're doing. I don't think you're competent to make that decision at this time. I will not accept your plea. So the one who thought he or she was smarter than the court finds out he or she doesn't know much about the court or as much he or she thought he or she knew. You all think you know me. You don't know me at all, but you're finding out. And you can thank your Speaker for this lesson this morning. I told you all what he was going to do and what the repercussions could be. You did it anyway. You made your bed, in other words. And now let's put the rest of it there. You made your bed, now lie in it. I don't say sleep in it, because these are not going to be peaceful, serene times where sleep is what you'll do, unless it is the sleep of the exhausted. And I assure you if somebody's going to be exhausted around here it's not going to be me first. And you all sit down all the time. You prop your head up on your hand. You get messages on your gadgets. You communicate with people. I don't need any of that. I stand up all the time. I get enough amusement from watching and listening to my colleagues. This gadget of mine...the lid is open, but the light's not on. I don't use that gadget. It doesn't even have to be on my desk. And if there's something I really need to know, I ask the people over here in the culture corner and they help me. I'm not above seeking help, but I know the ones to seek it from. Now, you all thought when I was singing about...or reciting the words about Sherry that I was talking about Senator...she's not paying attention. You thought I was talking about the senator from Bellevue. But if you look in front of the Chamber you'll see two

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

others similarly attired. Turn your eyes to the front of the Chamber and see what you observe when we're talking about, oh, with your red dress on. There's a lot that goes on around this place. All you have to do is have eyes to see. Why do you think that Raphael and Rubens and Leonardo da Vinci were great painters? Because they observed and they could put on paper, put on canvass, and some could even cut out of marble what they wanted to convey. But the potential to be that might be in everybody. But because everybody doesn't rise to that level of potential, they don't make it actual...artists are, the great ones, few and far between, just like anything. Nobody gets credit for just walking. If you walk funny and walk real fast, in the Olympics you'll get noted for that. But anybody can walk. Not anybody can sculpt. Not anybody can paint... [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...effectively. I have one minute on this time. Then I have another opportunity to speak. And if I'm called on to speak again, it will be 11:58 when I get through, and then there'll be a priority motion, and when the vote is taken on that motion, I will lose again as I do every day. But I'll just keep coming back because, see, brothers and sisters, friends, enemies, and neutrals, water knows one of these days it's going to run uphill. It keeps running downhill, and it keeps on doing, but one day it feels like it's going to run uphill and maybe it will. Maybe it already has but nobody was there to see it. Does a tree make a noise when it falls in the forest and there's no ear to hear it? Nobody will ever know because if somebody was there, the ear was there to hear it. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Watermeier, under Rule 6, Section 3(f) you are recognized to respond to the indefinitely postpone motion. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm going to ask for your no vote on the indefinitely postpone this motion from Senator Chambers. But I would like to look forward to the debate about how water would run uphill. I'll look forward to that and how we can get to that point. So with that, I will end and ask for your no vote when we get to this IPP motion. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Senator Schumacher, you're recognized. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I was listening to Senator Chambers describe this morning's experiences: huge and fantastic. Senator Chambers, would you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Willingly. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Senator Chambers, was your experience this morning supercalifragilisticexpialidocious? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It most certainly has been. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: I'd yield the balance to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Senator Chambers, you're yielded 4:30. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, "Professor" Schumacher. And I'm even going to thank Senator Watermeier because his response was entirely different from what I expected it to be. However, you are going to find me to be predictable as I continue on this bill. Brothers and sisters, friends, enemies, neutrals, it didn't have to come to this. Anytime something that people deem to be unfortunate occurs, there will be some soul who will say it did not have to come to this. It could have ended otherwise. That's the "coulda, shoulda, woulda" approach, but in the real world it means nothing because, by the time those notions are expressed, the game is over. This game is not over. This legislative day is over to all intents and purposes. But there will be other days. There will be other issues. If something as simple, uncomplicated, uncontroversial as an A bill that spends or appropriates less than \$10,000 can lead to this, it is a manifestation of the truth of the maxim that it's foolish to be penny wise and pound foolish. But Senator Watermeier got his vote to advance the underlying bill. Senator Watermeier if he wants to can pull this bill. He can pull the A bill if he wants to and that's what I would like to see happen. Then they would maybe have to find money somewhere else to carry out the underlying bill or maybe it would become a nullity. But nobody knows that. Senator Watermeier could cut new ground by pulling this bill and the Governor would find the money since the Motor Vehicles Department is under his control, a piddling \$9,000? Why, he has that much money in his watch pocket, if he has a watch pocket. Senator Watermeier should pull this bill. If he's here I'd like to ask him a question before my time runs out, if he would yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Senator Watermeier, will you yield? I don't see Senator Watermeier. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I don't either and that was not to be a trick question. So he can contemplate it and maybe he'll answer tomorrow, I was going to ask him if he's willing to pull this bill if I will promise not to talk about it anymore after he pulls it. But... [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...some people are listening. I think that I will...is my third time? [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: This is your first time, but you're on Senator Schumacher's time. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, then I will stop at this point. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Schumacher and Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the reason I have so much opposition to the underlying bill is because it makes a political statement which, as Senator Krist pointed out days ago, hours ago for sure, none of the current plates of this variety has a message which is controversial--not one of them. They don't help anybody, as Loran Schmit would say. They don't hurt anybody. They don't do anything. But they cost something. And there's a cost only to the people who want them. Based on the rationale people gave for the kind of bills that became law to create these license plates, even I am not aware of any of them, and I haven't seen all of them...let me phrase it this way. I will presume that not one of those conveys a message which would make people ashamed to be in Nebraska and have a plate of that kind on a car because the state authorized it to be there. This that we've been talking about...and I'm not the only one who's talked about it. I've talked about it more than anybody else. This is the first one of its kind that is divisive and designed to be so. It's setting some people based on their religious or their personal views above everybody else who does not agree with them. They might try to characterize it differently, so we cannot even agree on that. The state will not be hurt in any way if this bill, the underlying bill, does not become law. The state certainly is not helped. But there are individuals whose political fortunes will be helped if this bill passes. They will have done what the pro-life lobby demands that they do. Senator Krist mentioned one time that he ran afoul of them because they said, he didn't offer what would be called a pro-life bill. Senator Watermeier has learned that lesson so he's going to cross all the t's, he's going to dot all of the i's, and everybody knows what this license plate is about. Everybody knows what those two words mean. They're not even code words in the sense of not being over...understood or covering a message. They are blatant and right out there because those are the terms that have

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

been used now. Senator Watermeier admitted...I'd like to ask him a question since he's back. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Senator Watermeier, will you yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Watermeier, unless it was somebody else, are you the one who said that you checked on the existence of these plates and what has happened with reference to them in other states, did you say that? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: In my opening I mentioned that I had checked. There was 29 or 30 other states that have them, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, I didn't want to attribute it to you. Now, is this a pro-life message... [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...in the context of the abortion issue? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: In that context you could probably take it in that regard, but I've had several people tell me it means other things to them as well. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And the reason I asked Senator Watermeier, the other day he made it clear what his intent is. I give him credit for that, but it's obvious to everybody. But some people are trying to say it means something else. Why do you have to say it means something else when we all know what it means? Because you might feel there is something illegitimate of putting it on the license plate as a shot fired in the abortion matter. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Watermeier. Mr. Clerk for items. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Business and Labor reports LB248 to General File with amendments. Priority bill designations: Senator Wishart to LB622 and Senator Geist to LB271. We've received a memorandum in response to the motion to show cause order

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

Floor Debate  
February 28, 2017

---

relative to the election contest for District 11. Name adds: Senator Blood to LB121, Senator Brewer to LB289. An announcement that the Ag Committee will meet in Executive Session at 1:30 this afternoon in Room 2102. (Legislative Journal pages 566-567.) [LB248 LB622 LB271 LB121 LB289]

And finally, Mr. President, Senator Stinner would move to adjourn until Wednesday, March 1, at 9:00 a.m.

SENATOR HUGHES: Mr. Speaker, you're recognized.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you. I appreciate Senator Krist's bringing it back to my attention. Just a quick reminder, tomorrow morning at 9:00 we will convene and then we will adjourn our...adjourn until...recess until the afternoon. We will have your committee hearings in the morning and then we will get together at 1:30 for the 150, the sesquicentennial celebration on the floor at 1:30. So again, tomorrow morning will be committee, but do come. We will check in at 9:00 and then in the afternoon we will have the sesquicentennial celebration as well. So thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR HUGHES: Thank you, Speaker Scheer. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President. Senator Stinner would move to adjourn until Wednesday, March 1, 2017 until 9:00 a.m.

SENATOR HUGHES: The question is, shall the Legislature adjourn? All those in favor say aye. All those opposed say nay. The Legislature is adjourned.