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Floor Debate  
February 05, 2019

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FOLEY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the nineteenth day of the One Hundred Sixth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain for today is Pastor Bill Reeves from the North Platte Baptist Church in North Platte, Nebraska, Senator Groene's district. Please rise.

PASTOR REEVES: (Prayer offered.)

FOLEY: Thank you, Pastor Reeves. I call to order the nineteenth day of the One Hundred Sixth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

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

FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections.

FOLEY: Are there any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Government, Military and Veterans Affairs reports LB214 to General File; LB52, LB152, LB186 and LB223 to General File with amendments. All those signed by Senator Brewer. Hearing notices from the Judiciary Committee and Health and Human Services Committee signed by Senators Lathrop and Howard. Gubernatorial appointment letter, appointments to the State Fair Board, that will be referred to Reference. That's all that I have at this time, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Howard, for what purpose do you rise?

HOWARD: A point of personal privilege.

FOLEY: Please proceed.

HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. Good morning, colleagues. The Health and Human Services Committee will continue our series of briefings on several areas and issues

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covered by the committee. And there are two briefings scheduled for this week, one on Thursday at 1:00 in Room 1510. That's around economic assistance programs, so those are programs like SNAP, TANF, ADC, LIHEAP, energy assistance, things that your constituents are probably using. And then on Friday at 1:00 still in Room 1510 we'll be doing another briefing on childcare and childcare subsidies. Any future briefings we're going to send out an entire schedule for the Legislature, so all senators are invited to them, but they'll be happening at 1:00 in Room 1510. Thank you so much, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Howard. Members, we'll proceed right to the agenda. The first item is a Select File item. Senator Kolterman, Senator Slama's not on the floor at the moment, perhaps you could make the motion for us on LB33A.

KOLTERMAN: I move we advance LB33A to E&R.

FOLEY: Thanks, Senator Kolterman. Members, you've heard the motion to advance LB33A to E&R for engrossing. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. LB33A advances. Proceeding now to General File. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB63, a bill by Senator Groene relates to rural and suburban fire protection districts. Senator Groene presented his bill yesterday, Mr. President. The committee amendments were adopted that were offered by the Revenue Committee. I do have an amendment pending to the bill.

FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Groene, do you want to take a minute or two to just refresh us on the bill and where we are.

GROENE: Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, it's Mutual Finance Assistance Act. It's about your insurance premiums and 10 percent of them go towards fire districts if they agree to work together to help each other with fire and rescue. Then they can garner some, up to \$300,000 per county based on per capita numbers and can gain some assistance. All this does is add a little more local control and property tax relief to the system where instead of every year they have to have the same levy to be in the organization, the contracts will now be three years, and they have to have the agreed upon max levy one out of the three years. The other two years the well-run districts can lower their levies if they don't need the funding. And the other part of it, it raises their stipend for meetings from \$25 up to \$50, up to 12 monthly meetings, and they only get that if they attend the meeting and just keeps up with a little bit with inflation. And then we also address those fire districts that are not in a mutual fund organization that has a misunderstanding with their county commissioners that they can still levy a levy while they mend fences or fix

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things with their county commissioners. That pretty much sums it up, and would hopefully vote green on LB63.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Groene. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA1.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on FA1.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, to the best of my ability, I am a man of my word. My word means more to me than all of the oaths that you all take whether you put your hand on the Bible or not. And you do so many things that require me to digress. You should not do that. You claim to be Christians. You claim to believe the Bible. You claim to believe Jesus. What did Jesus say? You go to the Bible to find out, so what did Jesus say in that Bible? I say unto you, swear not at all. Jesus said, do not swear. I am the only one being a non-Christian, nonreligious, who never swears, and he's not talking about profanity or cursing. He's talking about an oath. Jesus said, don't do it. Don't swear by your head because you can't make one hair white or black. Don't swear by Jerusalem because it is his footstool. I say unto you, swear not at all. There is not a Christian, so-called, in here who will stand up and acknowledge what I'm saying is true, and then every time you all go up there when you win your reelection, you violate the word that Jesus gave you. If you don't respect him, why should I? All I know is what I read. You all claim to have had some kind of personal experience with a man who has been dead 2,000 years. Well, Jesus said, let the dead bury their dead. Whatever those things mean are for you all to determine, but I'm going to go into what my amendment is this morning and it goes back to me saying, I'm a man of my word, and I don't need an oath to bind me. As a matter of fact if that was the only thing that binds me, I could disregard it the same way you all do. Let me tell you what my amendment attempts to do. If you turn to page 5 and look at line 21, this is what currently is in that line, have a duration of at least three years. My amendment would strike "at least" and insert the words "no more than". Then we have something specific. You have a statement of how long at the max this agreement is to last without the Legislature doing something about it. Personally, I don't like this tax shift bill, and it's what I think the rural people are going to try to do, and Senator Groene has put this out there to see if any of you smart urban people would catch it. He is taking money out of a premium fund that is based on what he told us on a 3 percent premium tax that is on your payment of your insurance. That's what he said. Well, obviously, if he's going to take money out of it, that tax is bringing in too much money. If it's bringing in too much money why won't he, the tax cut conservative, cut that premium tax? I'm sure the people in the city would appreciate it. The people in the city who pay-- are the ones who pay the majority of it. But where a tax could be cut and one of the tax cutters has told us that. You all did not take the flame. I did. And I don't claim to be one of those tax-chasing hounds.

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The government needs revenue to operate, to provide all those services that it does for the people who live in the rural area as well as those who live in the urban area, but the "ruralees" want to cut their taxes for a relatively few people who get a lot of money, when they have farms, from the government. They get handouts. They don't work for that money. They want a guarantee when they've chosen a method of earning a living, which may cost them more to produce what they produce than what the market will pay them. The government has promised them through this man who is your President that those welfare checks that the farmers are looking for and waiting for to somewhat soften the blow of those tariffs that he has imposed. The farmers are breathlessly waiting. They need that promised money. Any harm that the tariffs cause to the nonfarmers is something that they just have to swallow. If cars cost more, if these gadgets cost more, that's tough. But the farmers, his base, I guess that's what he thinks they are, are the ones he's interested in. It seems to me that the word base, looking at it metaphorically, can define those who support him. The term base can mean at the very bottom, that on which everything else is placed. So they're at the bottom of society. Base also means to be immoral, to be lacking in principle, and all those other negatives. So he has properly chosen a word to define those who follow him. They are racist. They carry torches. Shout Nazi slogans. One of them drove a car through a crowd of people and killed them. And Trump thinks that's all right. There are good people on both sides. The killers and those who are killed. That's what America is about. So what I want to do since you're going to probably pass this tax-shift bill is work with it. And I'm going to remind you of something else. I am deeply offended at what you did yesterday, especially these committee chairs. They're supposed to be the leaders of the Legislature. They're supposed to set the tone, but they've shown themselves to be petty, vindictive, and perhaps even racist because it just so happens as these activities always do when they go toward a black person to say, oh, it just happened that way. Well, it hasn't happened that way before, and when it happens, it happens to the black person who is chair of a committee. I hope it teaches my young brother, who is chairperson of that committee, that when those white people used him last time around, it wasn't because they liked him or respected him. He was going to be one of the sticks used to beat Democrats and other "Repelicans" that the "Repelican" party didn't like, and now they're showing what they really don't think of him. This amendment that the committee put forth was not substantive. It did not change anything in the bill. It was simply to clarify what role a date in the bill served. And the chairpersons, all of them except-- I guess all of them, joined in rejecting the committee amendment. So I pledged--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --to oppose every committee amendment offered on every bill. But this is a bill which I'm going beyond. I objected to and resisted the adoption of the committee amendment which was the emergency clause. If Senator Groene had been on his P's and Q's he would have drafted that bill, this one we're talking about, to have an emergency clause in the first place. But those are what you can call minor glitches, which are routinely allowed to be corrected. And

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generally, I will routinely vote for something like an emergency clause on a bill like this even though I may have problems with it. Let the bill be in the form that the introducer wants when what is asked for is not substantive. Now, some may say the emergency clause is--

FOLEY: Time, Senator. Time, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Oh, thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Members, the cookies being distributed on the floor this morning are in celebration of the birthday of Senator Matt Williams. Happy birthday, Senator Williams. Discussion on the bill and amendment. Senator Blood.

BLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President. Fellow Senators, friends all, I rise today unfortunately against Senator Chambers' motion, but in favor of LB63. And I would like to add that I am standing to Senator Chambers' challenge. I am mortal. I do sin, and I do acknowledge the fact that I sin and I do cuss like a sailor. And I'd like to remind him that we're taught that if any man says he has no sin, he is a liar, and the truth is not in him. And so I am asked frequently why I sit next to Senator Chambers and why I don't move my position on the floor, because there is nobody on this floor with exception of Patrick that knows more about this process and how it works. And it behooves all of us to respect that knowledge, whether we agree with it or not, and so again I stand against Senator Chambers' motion, but in favor of Senator Groene's bill, and I do that respectfully, and, again, I admit that I do cuss, but that does not mean that I am just a sinner, it means I'm a work in progress. Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Blood. Senator Chambers.

CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I do not count votes. I don't need any support from anybody on anything that I do. If I bring it, that means I'm prepared to fight for it. I don't need a lot of company along with me. The Governor does. There is people on this floor do, but don't judge me by yourselves. Many of you see things not as those things themselves are, but as you are. So I am not expecting anybody this session to support anything that I bring forth. I watched yesterday and acknowledged that it taught me something when the committee chairs united in a virtually solid phalanx with the Speaker to reject a committee amendment. I don't recall in the number of years I've been here that type of action having been taken. It offended me, not anybody else. So when I take offense, I am the one who should respond, and I want you all to know that that's what I will do. When I come to any assembly, when I address any group, I don't care how large it is, it comprises a multitude of individuals, or a small number of individuals. When a mob is put together, you may have what could be called a collective mentality, but it is not the same as that collective consciousness of a group of ants working together. They do have a

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type of collective mentality and understanding and behave almost as single organism. That is not the way human beings are. I don't care if I were in a stadium before 50,000 people, or on a street corner where Senator Briese thinks some of my positions ought to be articulated, one person. If I have something to say I give the best that I have to offer to that one or to that multitude. This amendment on this bill is based on all of the yakety-yak I've been reading in the newspaper. All that many of you have talked about during the interim. Property tax relief. The Governor said he's not in favor of tax shifts, so there are conflicting opinions even on that question. There are, what I call, battling bills. They're fighting. Each one for acceptance, and I'm watching all of this being done by those who, when I read books, are supposed to be my betters, which I don't accept. Now, if there are white men who are better than me, more intellectual than I based on genetics, I would be happy to meet such a person because I could learn from him, but I have not met one. I have not seen one. I have not read anything written by one, so I want the white people who believe in white supremacy, like the one who is detrimental to white supremacy, Donald trump is detrimental to white supremacy.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: But if you've got somebody like that stashed away, bring him out here. Not just in this Chamber. Bring him where everybody can see him. Where is this white man genetically superior to me? They're not even all stronger than I am physically, and I'm into my 82nd year. They cannot even beat me running up the stairs. Younger than I am, and I'm in my 82nd year, and yet they're superior to me? They can't give you the eight parts of English, and I can. And that's not my mother tongue. Mine would be some place in Africa. And I can give you the eight parts. That makes me superior, I believe. I'll put my light on.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Groene.

GROENE: Thank you, Mr. President. The language in our bill matches the rest of the bill about once every three years that you should have the tax at the levy agreed upon. Senator Chambers' amendment would say no more than. That means you could have one, two or three years. One year doesn't match three years, two years doesn't match three years in the rest of the bill. Three years does. If you want to go four years, five years, six years, fine. On your mutual organization agreement it takes away some paperwork too, and they could redo it any time they wanted. It gets local control. They could call a meeting and say we can lower the tax, the max levy. We need to raise it. Everybody has to agree. All districts have to agree, and to correct Senator Chambers on that Groene's creating some kind of taking money away from the cities and creating a new program, the mutual finance organization was created by a bill by Senator Wickersham. I'm sure Senator Chambers had met him in the 1990s. It was added into legislation that has existed since 1951. Within existing statutes, we are rearranging the abilities in how the

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rural fire districts can access the money in the Mutual Finance Assistance Fund. It has always been there. By the way of the 9 million or so that's collected every year, 40 percent of the tax is deposited in a General Fund so that the Appropriations Committee can appropriate it. Ten percent goes into the Mutual Assistance Fund, which we are discussing here today. The remaining 50 percent is deposited in an insurance tax fund and distributed as follows: 10 percent to the counties and distributed based on population into their general fund; 30 percent to the Municipal Equalization Fund and 60 percent to schools, which Senator Chambers loves education, he's told us that earlier, through the equalization aid in a TEEOSA formula. So now rural gets a very small part of this, and because the equalization formula seems to take all the money to urban schools, and we don't get much of that either. So anyway, the present language matches the intent of the law, the intent of the statute matching three years to three years at the minimum. I appreciate a red on FA1 and a green on LB63.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Groene. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. Your third opportunity.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Groene a question or two if he will respond.

FOLEY: Senator Groene, would you yield, please?

GROENE: I know you like education, and I'm willing to do that, sir.

CHAMBERS: Senator, are you telling me that the language that I'm attempting to change with my amendment is found elsewhere in this bill?

GROENE: No.

CHAMBERS: Then I am writing my amendment appropriately, am I not? If this is the only place where the language is found in this bill, this is the only place I can amend it, is that right?

GROENE: You did your amendment correctly by the process, yes.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. And I'm not trying to quarrel with any of the principles Senator Groene laid out, because that's not my intent. I don't care what this bill says. But if or when a fund was created or how much money is in it, and how much is given to the General Fund. What I'm talking about is a tax shift. There is too much money being assessed against the citizens of this state and noncitizens if they have insurance and pay it. And when the tax is bringing in more

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money than is needed, it should be either abolished or it should be reduced. So if you hypocrites vote against what I'm trying to do, expect me to fight tooth and nail against every tax bill that you bring. You say you want to cut taxes? You don't want it when it touches the rural people, do you? This is something strictly for the rural people. The majority of the money does in fact come from the urban people. You didn't care yesterday about a concern that more than one urban person had about early childhood education because they don't need that in the rural areas. You can listen to what happens on this floor. They get elected to chairmanships. They can talk on the floor like anybody else. Be as wrong as two left shoes, and that's why they don't think education at any level is too important. When they talk about what they call education, they're talking about dollars only and not the quality of what is being presented. And when somebody does bring something from a rural area, it's like what Senator Slama brought. Test people, kids in school, on some test given to people who want to be citizens of this country so you teach to a test. You don't teach to think. When I was in grade school I memorized the Declaration of Independence, all of it. And I didn't understand a lot of the words that were in it, but I had a good memory. So if you teach them to pass a test, you've got to give them the information on the test. And when you teach to a test you limit and restrict what is being done, and that is not what I call education. I call that wrote recitation. People need to learn how to think. To understand this tripartite government that exists at the federal and the state level should go into more than simply saying executive, legislative, and judicial.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: Executive is the President or the Governor. Legislative is Congress or the Legislature. Judicial designates the courts. So what? And that is what the concept of education is in the rural areas. No wonder they don't think there should be early childhood education because you don't need any education to do that. I learned all of the Raven when I was in high school. I learned all of Kipling's Ballad of East and West when I was in high school, and I understood those two. That's a matter of memory. What is needed is the ability to think, to analyze, to evaluate, to hypothecate, to speculate, to extrapolate. Turn your brain loose.

FOLEY: Time, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. You said that was my third time?

FOLEY: Yes. Senator, you're recognized now to close on your amendment.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. And I'm not through with this. We're going to learn something about the rules also. Let me tell you by means of an analogy or a metaphor how I view education in terms of the difference between teaching kids about a test that may be administered, and teaching



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them how to think. If you had a rambunctious colt and you tied that colt to a pole in the middle of a pasture, I don't care how large it is, if there is some length to that rope you used to attach the colt, it can move around the pole and each circle around the pole will bring the colt closer to it, but there's still a very narrow range in which the colt can walk. If the colt reverses, then it unwinds the rope. Then if it stands the distance from the pole that equals the distance of the rope, the colt can walk to the pole. The colt can back away from the pole, but it's limited by the length of that rope. On the other hand, if you turn a rambunctious colt loose in a pasture, that colt runs. That colt has curiosity. Let me not limit it to a colt. Young animals experiment with their environment. They can smell, they can hear, they can see, they can taste, they can touch, and they learn. When children are in school, teaching can be described or illustrated in the following manner. My left hand is where the student is when he or she comes into class. My right hand is where the student should be when that student leaves that class. To the extent that the teacher can reduce that space, and the closer that left hand comes to the right hand, the more teaching has been done, the more learning has been achieved. And that is the way to view the teaching by smarter people of information to those less smart. But I'm not through with this amendment or this bill because I have a lot of things that need to be said. And I'm going to take my time and your time. For the new people, you are not required to stay in your seat. You can get on out of here whenever you want to. And if you think that empty chairs make me less willing to speak, you got another think coming because the fewer of you who are here, the more successful I am in controlling what happens in this Legislature. I am not the Speaker. The Speaker lays out the agenda, but I'm able to set the agenda in terms of what will actually be done and what will be prevented from being done. Now, why don't you all run together to your Rules Committee and do what was attempted by those in prior ones, and that's why I gave you that handout this morning. And you see how fast I can do a turnaround? These one-day committees are learning bad habits from the Judiciary Committee. They are now holding hearings that go past six o'clock.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: Did you say time?

FOLEY: One minute, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Oh, thank you. But I stay for the entire hearings. But they ought to cut that out. But that's the way committees go. But I'll run every one of you out of here, and I'll talk to the empty Chamber because there are far more people watching than will ever be in this Chamber. Far more of them are thinking than those who will be thinking in this Chamber. So I am a person cut from different cloth, and don't judge me by your shortcomings or limitations. Mr. President, I would ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote on this amendment.

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FOLEY: 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; those opposed vote nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 1 nay to place the house under call.

FOLEY: 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. Senators Howard, Wishart, Clements, Erdman, Hilgers, please return to the floor and check in. The house is under call. Senator Chambers, we're lacking Senator Howard and Senator Wishart at this point. Senator Howard, please return to the floor and check in. All unexcused members are now present. The question for the body is adoption of FA1. A roll call vote has been requested. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken.) 0 ayes, 39 nays.

FOLEY: FA1 is not adopted. I raise the call. Mr. Clerk. Items for the record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President, yes, I do. Banking Committee chaired by Senator Williams reports LB172, LB442, LB536, LB622 to General File. Revenue Committee chaired by Senator Linehan reports LB4, LB185, LB372 to General File; and LB103 to General File with amendments, likewise with LB183. Also Government Committee reports LB450 to General File, LB406 to General File with amendments. Enrollment and Review reports LB70, LB78, LB42, excuse me, LB221, LB42, LB115, (LB188) and LB258 to Select File, some having Enrollment and Review amendments. I also have a hearing notice from the Education Committee, Mr. President. Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken with respect to FA1.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your reconsideration motion.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is pursuant to my promise to take time, and I'm going to. You all are not accustomed to dealing with anybody who will give his word and then stick by it no matter how upset other people may become, but there are things that happen around here that upset me, and I will use any legislative tool available to not only underscore how upset I am, why I'm upset, but to try to encourage you, or deter you from doing it again. But you'll do it again. That's the nature of being in this Legislature. I'm in this Legislature, but I'm not of this Legislature. This is not the only amendment that I plan to offer. But every time we take a vote, I'll simply move to reconsider. Even if you adopt the

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amendment, you may put me in that unusual position of perhaps moving to reconsider my own amendment, which may have been adopted, but I don't think I have to worry about that today because you are constitutionally, speaking of your makeup, incapable of voting for anything that I present. Now, another amendment I'm going to grapple with is on page 3. The last thing anybody wants to do where I'm concerned when you're trying to stifle me, the last thing you want to do is present a bill with a number in it because all I have to do, and it reduces my thinking to the level of what usually occurs here, is reduce that number by one digit. On page 5, page 3 in line 7 is the word underlined 50, and the two words, 25, are stricken. Senator Groene wants to spend more tax money to give these people an increase in what he, and I will accept his correct characterization of it, a stipend. My first amendment on that will not be to reduce that number to 49. I'm not that cruel because I'm not religious. I will reduce it to maybe 30, and then as I think on it, if that seems to have been giving away too much when you reject that and we reconsider it, we should be getting near the midpoint of our morning activities. I will then switch from trying to reduce the number 50 to 30 and raise it to 45. If any of you all have played card games, you know, the I raise you-- I don't play them --but I have seen movies where that's something that people say. And sometimes everybody else will quit if a person says I raise you or whatever that is, everybody quits, and that person gets everything. Or if the person says, I raise you, or whatever it is, and somebody says, I call. Well, I thought there would be a telephone somewhere, but it wasn't that. That was a secret code that everybody around the table understood. And if whatever this call meant was done in the right way, then the one who said call, then calls everything on the table that's in the pot to him or her. And that's some of what happens in card games. Now you know more about it than you did before. I gave that intellectual explanation, which is so clear that somebody on the street corner could understand. But today, I'm delivering on a promise that I made to myself. Along the way I like to inform my colleagues of their privileges, their rights. And some of you who are new, don't realize this. You don't have to vote for a call of the house. You don't have to vote for it, and if I don't get sufficient votes to have a call of the house, there will not be a call of the house. And then you know what I will be forced to do, without taking the small amount of time from you that is required to execute a call of the house waiting for everybody to get here and check in, I will simply have to take up my reconsideration motion immediately, which doesn't make me any difference, but see there's another lesson that I'm giving you. Our rule book, it might be an eighth of an inch thick, maybe more. Who is not able to read it? But who is unwilling to read it? I didn't write it. I didn't name this room after myself. It just happens that it shares with me a name. We're both Chambers, but it is plural, I guess. How can one be plural and that be grammatically or syntactically correct? That would be like saying, now, God can say this, I are God. If you're a Christian that's what God has to say, I are God because you believe in polytheism. You have three Gods. You have a father, you have a son. In order to have a father and a son there must be something that distinguishes one from the other. So if you have a father and a son, one and one. One plus one equal two. So there's two. Where's the third one? The Heiligen Geistes. The holy ghost. Not the holy mackerel. I know what you're thinking. If you watch Family Feud, they say finish this word or add, what's the

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word you say after this, holy. And somebody might say cow. And you offend Hindus. Somebody says, mackerel and you offend Catholics. So you got to be careful what you say because the more deeply religious somebody is, the more dangerous that person is. So, can you show me in the "Bible" where those three were in the same scene, the same scene, yes. There was a guy named John the Baptist, and he walked around in the wilderness. He probably had a long beard. He wore animal skins. He ate grasshoppers and wild honey. This man ate grasshoppers, but here's what his job was to do. His job was to perform a baptism, if I'm correct. And baptism is where you take somebody who's religious and you duck them in the water. They go under the water as a dry devil. They come out of the water as a wet devil with their devilry reinforced by water. But anyway, here was this baptism. The person being baptized was known variously as Jesus the Christ, the son of Joseph, the son of God, the son of man, the lion of Judah,--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --the lamb of God being baptized. So when he came out of the water, here's where you have all three. Daddy-o, laddy-o and spook. Jesus was laddy-o. Spook was a holy ghost. Daddy-o was the one you all call God. So, Jesus the son came out of the water, a dove lit on him which was the holy ghost, and a voice from heaven said, this is my beloved son in whom I am well-pleased, or something like that. There were your three Gods. The Romans and Greeks just have a few more than you have, but theirs are no more ridiculous than the three that you all say you worship. Now, Judaism has one God.

FOLEY: Time, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

CHAMBERS: They have a statement that encapsulates this idea. Here, O Israel, the Lord thy God is one God. Here, O Israel, and the Jews said that they're God's chosen people. There have been other groups who say that they are the chosen people of the God they worship, and that's where the wars come from. Each one feels that its God is the best God and all these Gods sit around smoking stogies, playing cards, laughing at you all. Listen to them down there babbling, having wars over us. They don't even know us. And then one of them pipes up and says, but we made them. They say, yeah, we have our demon rum and we were little off the rails and we created human beings. But here's what we did. A young lady named Mary Shelley wrote a book called Frankenstein and they talked about this because they knew everything that was going to happen. And in her book she's going to create a monster in the book. The person is going to create the monster, but there will be no mechanism of control built into that monster. But when

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we create these creatures called humans, there will be a mechanism of control. We're going to give them so much time then they will self-destruct. That's how we will preserve the rest of the creation. So, all of you human beings who fight each other because you have different religions are going to all self-destruct anyway, and you're working toward it. I pay attention to what happens in the world. There's something that disturbs me. The word apocalypse is confused with the battle of Armageddon. Look up apocalypse in the dictionary. It has to do with a revelation or a presentation, an explanation of something. It doesn't mean a war. When they talk about a zombie apocalypse, they think that that means a war between zombies and nonzombies, but they won't even use the dictionary and find out what these words mean. So if there's anybody out there listening, distinguish between apocalypse and the battle of Armageddon. The battle of Armageddon is to be the last big battle, the big bang theory number two. Number one started it, number two ends it. Your President just withdrew your country from a nuclear-- and I'm going to use these terms advisedly, loosely, a nuclear weapons control or limitation treaty with Russia. So Russia reciprocated. And what Putin did immediately was to bring in his generals and order the immediate production of medium-ranged nuclear weapons, 500 to 5,000 cyclometers. That's medium range. So America is going to build a lot of them over here--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --and Russia will build a lot over there. And Russia said that their response to America will be symmetrical. Everything America does, Russia will do. So America is going to build the weapons, so will Russia. But Russia will not deploy them, or move them outside of Russia and place them in various strategic locations, unless America does it. Well, with the person you have in the White House, they'll probably be deployed along the southern border and fired into Mexico and certain central American countries. As long as that's done and all of the nuclear fallout is in the northern hemisphere, western hemisphere, northern hemisphere, it doesn't make Russia any difference. Blow it all up. But if you cross a certain line and it endangers Russia, then they will respond.

FOLEY: That's time, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized for your third opportunity.

CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, that is just the beginning. North Korea is presided over by a young man, Kim Jong-un. The Un's are a family who believed in education which rural people on the floor don't. The young Un's went to Europe, Switzerland, and learned what they could about western knowledge. They are educated. Your President is not. Kim Jong-un has read

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all of his life. Your President has said he does not like to read. He doesn't even read the documents prepared by his advisers and that's why they'll say one thing and he'll say something else, and when it's called to his attention by a reporter as was done the other day, he says I don't have to agree with them. No President has ever been that way before. You have advisers because they can see things that you don't have time personally to examine yourself. Each one has an area of expertise which he or she will master, get the information that is valuable, and will help you make wise decisions. It is put in a briefing document that is given to you and you study it like children will do before an examination. So that when you talk to other people who run countries in the world, you sound like you know what you're talking about. You're aware of things. You would never say, we have troops-- speaking of America --we have troops in Afghanistan, we have troops in Iraq, we're going to leave the troops in Iraq so that we can watch Iran. And he never talked to the Iraqis and the officials were outraged. He's treating the Iraqi people like the bumpkins in America who don't know anything. Those American troops are not there for the purpose of watching Iran. They were supposed to be there to fight against terrorism. And if America has changed that mission, the leaders have said, they'll kick America out. And because they know the nature of your President, they said, and if America refuses to leave, we have ways to make them leave. The President talked about this big sophisticated base in Iraq from which Americans would watch Iran. Well, the base doesn't belong to America, America didn't build it. The Iraqis built it, and the base is near Syria, not Iran. So I guess they're going to get some spyglasses and sit up there, but the Iraqis ridiculed him, your President, the one you all worship and follow. He makes your country look like it's simpleminded just like your President. He fires people who try to reason with him. Generals. People who understand the in's and out's of international intelligence who have proved that they know what they're talking about and he fires them because they said something he didn't like, and is based, which means the people on Fox television have told him, don't let those people dictate to you, so he fires them. You know who runs this country? The people at Fox. You don't have a President. And all you need to do is read the newspaper. And getting back to my point, [SINGING] Armageddon here you come.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: And I'm just watching. I'm not going to cause it. So, you have Russia, you have America. I won't talk about China yet. I'll do that on my next amendment, but you have North Korea. Trump has told you all, North Korea will scrap its nuclear weapons and Kim Jong-un has just taken steps to further protect what they've got and they're developing additional nuclear weapons and Trump's advisers told him North Korea is wedded to nuclear weapons because they feel that's the only way they can exist in the world and they're not going to give them up. He said, well, Kim Jong-un and I are friends and we're going to talk about it, probably over whoppers. Thank you, Mr. President.

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FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your reconsideration motion.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And in order that you all will not think that I will fail to deliver on my promise, I just had another amendment filed on the desk. And there's a song you all know on occasion, I will break into song. I'm not going to sing it, but I'm going to tell you the words. I'm 'Enery the Eighth, I am, 'Enery the Eighth, I am, I am. I got married to the widow next door, she's been married seven times before. And every one was an 'Enery, she wouldn't have a Willie or a Sam. And my name is 'Enery, so the 'Enery the Eighth, I am, I am. 'Enery the Eighth, I am. Then they say second verse, same as the first. I have to go step by step to keep you all abreast of what I'm dealing with. I'm going to go, and the way that I'm going, until I decide to do otherwise or until you get the will to stop me. You know how you can stop me? You can move to adjourn which you're not going to do. You can have your Rules Committee call a special meeting and draft an amendment to the rules aimed at me, but it won't work. I gave you that information to show you how it's not going to work. You cannot craft a rule that will stop me. The only way you can do it and then I would challenge you in court, because you would be depriving my constituents of representation which they are guaranteed to have under the constitution. The U.S. Constitution says that every state in this Union shall be guaranteed a republican or representative form of government. So if a state did not comply with that, that state would open the federal courts to somebody who pays attention to the U.S. Constitution to bring a legal action. And I would love to have a chance to do that and hold you up to ridicule and scorn in front of the whole world. One black man controls all of you. How? By following your rules. You all wrote the rules. Everything I do is pursuant to your rules. I read your rule book. I pay attention to your rules. If I'm going to play a card game, I learn the rules to that game. And then my job is to apply the rules in such a way that I win and you lose. And that's what happens here. You don't pay attention to your rules, you don't respect your constitution, you don't respect the Legislature as an institution. So whether you realize it not, I'm trying to persuade you all to realize and recognize the powers that we have as a Legislature. Every prayer that's prayed, including the one this morning, when it requests something, that can be done without a prayer. The senators can do it. When you're asking God to do things, we have the powers of the Legislature to do it. The fact is that you won't do it. So since you're going to have those prayers every morning, you bring religion in here, you love religion, I'm going to get on board with you and I'm going to talk about religion. You brought the religion into this Chamber. I brought a lawsuit to get it out of here. The only thing I succeeded in doing was getting rid of a paid chaplain--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --and now you have different individuals from different churches which was not the case before I brought my lawsuit and that was recognized by the Lincoln Journal Star in an

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editorial as a benefit from that lawsuit. I want it out of here all together. But since you deprived me of access to this Chamber during the prayers that you give, then I'm going to get my time back with interest. When you bring religion here every morning, I'm not coming up here. But when you get rid of all of your ceremonies, I'm going to come up here and I'm going to do what we're supposed to do as a Legislature, which is what I'm doing now. You don't like what I'm doing it, what I'm doing, but I'm doing it the way it is to be done according to our rules. And I have a lot that I'm going to say this morning. I've only got about an hour and-- let's say two hours to go.

FOLEY: Time.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Members, you heard the discussion of the reconsideration motion. The question for the body is the adoption of the motion. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers.

CHAMBERS: Call of the house and a roll call vote.

FOLEY: 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; those opposed vote nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 6 nays to place the house under call.

FOLEY: 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 Blood, could you check in. All unexcused members are now present. The question for the body is the reconsideration motion. A roll call vote has been requested. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken.) 2 ayes, 42 nays, Mr. President.

FOLEY: The reconsideration motion is not adopted. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, before we proceed, apparently the Exec Board will meet underneath the south balcony immediately.



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FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I raise the call.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the bill with FA2.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on FA2.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, did you all just hear that indication of displeasure with the way you all had been treating me? Did you hear that roaring and rumbling out there? Watch yourself. I'm going to tell you all what I have succeeded in doing. I told you how Jesus brought Pilate and Herod together who had been at odds. I united all of you all against me. You all will not vote that way on any other significant issue this session. So that, I chalk up to a success. Now, here's this amendment. On page 5, line 21, strike the word "three" and insert the word "five". Now, Senator Groene in speaking against my prior amendment said that with the language of that amendment the agreement could last for one year or two years, or three years, which was correct. It was to give them some flexibility. But since they don't want that flexibility and they want a specific number, I'm going to substitute the word five for three. If three are good, five must be better. I would like to ask Senator Groene a question if he's available.

FOLEY: Senator Groene, would you yield, please?

GROENE: Yes.

CHAMBERS: Senator Groene, just so it will be clear that what I'm saying is correct, if my amendment is adopted, it does not change anything about this organization, what they can do or how they do it, it simply makes it effective for two additional years. It changes it from the three in the bill to five, and that's all it would do. Do you agree?

GROENE: Yes. I agree.

CHAMBERS: Now, do you agree with the amendment?

GROENE: No.

CHAMBERS: Why not?

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GROENE: Five is too many years and that's for keep it symmetric. Three matches the other part of the statute where it's two out of three years, or one out of three years. It just simplifies it.

CHAMBERS: All right. I can understand that. Thank you, Senator Groene. Because of Senator Groene's overall approach, there's no way he could support this amendment, but I deal with what is in front of us. And this bill says that that amendment shall have a duration of at least three years. It doesn't have to be three. If the requisite number say that it will be one, it will be one, or two, or three. And that's the way it will remain if you reject my amendment. And I don't mind if you reject it. In fact, I expect it to be rejected. That's the way things will go. And I expect the one that I offer after this to be rejected. Although it baffles me how Senator Groene can take even more money out of that fund, that premium tax fund, and double this stipend, to use his word, when they don't do anymore than what they're doing now. I feel that what I'm doing is more important than being over there with the Exec Board. I am legislating. And we can get together and I'll find out if they leave the record open, if they're taking a vote, but I'm not going to be deterred this morning. I hope you all are enjoying this as much as I am, and I say that facetiously. You all who are new have been told certain things, and some of you by your Governor. You know why I fell out with him? Because he started it. He is a rich brat. His daddy spoiled him. Without him ever having been in my presence, before he had won the governorship, he said he was going to grow a coalition against Senator Chambers. He didn't know me. That's what he said. I didn't know anything about him. But if a white man insults me, or challenges me as he did, I will accept his challenge and I don't need a lot of company. So he'll build his coalition. What is he going to get you all to do to stop me so he can get you to adopt and accept his tax proposal, which by the way, the mayor of Omaha has already said, uh-uh, buddy. No. What does she not like about his proposal? It would limit-- well, I'm not going to tell you. You can read. You can find it for yourself. But she expressed explicitly what she finds wrong with this rich brat's offer. And since he purchased some of you and appointed a couple of you, he knows he starts with at least two votes. And then he'll threaten enough of the rest of you, he believes, to get his way. But he knows he's not going to gain anything by threatening me. None of you will. And I told them Senator Briese what they could do. You tried to stop me with an amendment of yours. And it had been offered before, and rejected. He and I talked about it before he offered it. You know why I didn't mind him offering it? It took time off the clock. The less time there is on the clock, the less damage can be done by this Legislature and your Governor. I didn't realize that the people in the audience were adults. So I somewhat modified what I was going to say, because if they were little children and they had come here, they wouldn't be expected to grasp what I'd have to say. But if you had children running this Legislature and Congress, things would be better. Little children have gotten on Facebook-- I don't know if they still have Facebook, but one of those social media channels, or whatever you call it, and will have seen a child who is deprived and needs something, or an adult, and a little child will start an effort to help that person. And sometimes because a child did it, people may have been embarrassed, they may have been touched, as it's called, and money would come in to help that individual. There was a

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philosopher who stated that the public are more willing and ready to assist one person who is in need than they are a large number of people in need. So they will help a poor person but they will not do anything to alleviate poverty. Now, I added that and extrapolated, and that's true.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: But if you turned these little children loose, they would find out that there are hungry children and they'd say, can we do something about hungry children? Yeah, all you need to do is pass a bill. Well, that's what we're going to do. And you say, well, why are you going to do that for? They say, well, isn't that what we're here for? Aren't we supposed to help people who are hungry? So then they find out there are little children who are sick. And I'll continue when I'm recognized, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Kolterman.

KOLTERMAN: Good morning, colleagues. I was wondering if Senator Chambers would yield to a question or two?

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, would you yield, please?

CHAMBERS: Yes.

KOLTERMAN: Good morning, Senator Chambers. I've been listening intently over here, enjoying about everything I'm hearing. You said a couple of times back you started singing a song. Who wrote that song, do you know?

CHAMBERS: Which one?

KOLTERMAN: Henry the Eighth.

CHAMBERS: I don't know.

KOLTERMAN: You don't know?

CHAMBERS: No.

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KOLTERMAN: Well, it was Herman's Hermits. Herman's Hermits and when was it released, do you know that?

CHAMBERS: Now is-- is one person named plural. There's somebody named Herman's Hermits?

KOLTERMAN: Yes, there is.

CHAMBERS: Well, when he went to school I bet he got a lot of trouble from the other students, huh?

KOLTERMAN: Yeah, I think so.

CHAMBERS: Okay. They were the ones who sang it, I'm aware of that.

KOLTERMAN: I'm asking the questions here now.

CHAMBERS: Okay.

KOLTERMAN: So what year was that song released?

CHAMBERS: I really don't know.

KOLTERMAN: 1965.

CHAMBERS: All right.

KOLTERMAN: And you said that second verse same as the first?

CHAMBERS: Yes.

KOLTERMAN: Would you sing the second verse? I'll yield you the rest of my time.

CHAMBERS: Well, since I didn't sing the first, I will not sing the second. Smart-alec.  
(Laughter)

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KOLTERMAN: Well, the real reason I asked for time on the mike was because I appreciate what you're doing, and I understand that you're filibustering Senator Groene's bill, but my bill is up next, and I'd like you to give me the reprieve that you said you were going to give me yesterday when we get to my bill. Will that work? You said you're a man of your word.

CHAMBERS: Will you repeat the question, please? I was engaged then.

KOLTERMAN: Well, Senator Groene's bill is this bill.

CHAMBERS: Yes.

KOLTERMAN: You're filibustering his bill, I understand that. So the next bill up is my bill and yesterday you indicated you were going to give me a reprieve because you have already gotten your pound of flesh out of me. So does that mean you're a man of your word and you're going to let my bill go through?

CHAMBERS: That is negotiable. Does your bill have a committee amendment on it?

KOLTERMAN: No, sir, it doesn't.

CHAMBERS: Senator, you got me.

KOLTERMAN: Thank you very much.

CHAMBERS: Okay.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senators Kolterman and Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, if people would listen, there is a way sometimes if an order is entered against a person by a court, or some decree is handed down by a dictator, if you read carefully, you may find within the words that are designed to condemn you, your salvation and a way to escape from the application of those words. Senator Kolterman heard me say repeatedly, and I said it repeatedly for a reason, that I'm a man of my word. That it means more to me than your oaths. But if you don't invoke it, I'm not going to take you by the hand and show you the way. Now, Senator Kolterman took me seriously and the next bill is number 32. There's no way that I could read LB63, one bill above Senator Kolterman's, and not know that his is next. I'd like to ask Senator Kolterman a question.

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FOLEY: Senator Kolterman, would you yield, please?

KOLTERMAN: Yes, I will.

CHAMBERS: Now, Senator Kolterman, I did not give you blanket amnesty for the entire session, did I?

KOLTERMAN: No, you did not.

CHAMBERS: And you focused on what our understanding would have been even if it wasn't stated specifically LB32, isn't that correct?

KOLTERMAN: That's correct.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. That's all I want to ask Senator Kolterman. And I'm going to tell you something else about me. If I'm dealing with you, I believe words are important, and here's somebody who has been straight with me and we're at a point of disagreement, but you think we had an agreement and I say, what words did we use. And you repeat back to me the words that were uttered, and in those words there is no agreement, you know what I do? Because I have a standard not based on religion, I, because I was dealing with that person, have an obligation based on my self-imposed standard to act in accord with what he or she understood reasonably from what we discussed. And simply because he or she was not meticulous enough to get specific words included, and we were not playing tit for tat, measure for measure, even-steven, we were having a serious discussion. I would conduct myself based on what that person could reasonably understand in terms of our minds having met. But that is a rare occurrence because generally I'm going to make sure that you know what you're saying, that you're saying what you mean.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: And if you don't mean what you're saying, I want to fix in your mind the words that you uttered so when they come back to bite you, then I can say is this what you said? And you say yes. Have I gone contrary to what your words indicated? Well, no. Then why are you looking for something we didn't agree on. That's to teach people. I wish everybody in here was smarter than I am and we would have a much better Legislature. If you had a sufficient level of intelligence, the first thing that would suggest itself to you, is to respect the institution of which you are a part. Thank you, Mr. President.

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FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're recognized for your third opportunity.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Kolterman a question.

FOLEY: Senator Kolterman, would you yield, please?

KOLTERMAN: Yes, I will.

CHAMBERS: Senator Kolterman, we both agree that our agreement div was not a blanket amnesty, correct?

KOLTERMAN: Yes, sir, that's what we agreed upon.

CHAMBERS: And we didn't mention LB32 by its number, did we?

KOLTERMAN: No, we did not.

CHAMBERS: Did we give a day when this amnesty would take place?

KOLTERMAN: No, we did not.

CHAMBERS: So, if you don't get to that bill today, then whenever it came up on the agenda, you would expect to collect on that amnesty promise, correct?

KOLTERMAN: At some point in time. If you want to pick a different bill that you really don't like, that would be fine as well. I just want my amnesty.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. And members what-- that's all, Senator Kolterman. I want you all to understand that I still may be able to prevent his bill from coming up today and that way neither he nor I, based on our agreement, will derail the other one. I have an hour and a half of time that I must consume. That is if you all decide to adjourn at noon. I doubt that LB32 will come up today. But if it does, I may have some legitimate questions, but he said there is no committee amendment, so based on what it looks like it is, I don't see anything that would necessarily make me be opposed to it. But since I haven't looked at it, I cannot say for sure. But if I had something that I objected to, I would call it to Senator Kolterman's attention. He might be able to explain it

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in a way so that I would not be objective-- I would be objecting to it, but if he would promise that we would work on it between now and Select File, then I would let that bill go ahead and move. And he would not be guaranteeing me that he's going to come to where I am. Ours-- our agreement. When I say ours, that's what I'm referring to. Ours goes only to his bill being given that opportunity, and him given the chance to do whatever he can persuade the rest of you all to do. But for my part, I've got to continue or my word will mean nothing. Is this my third time, Mr. President?

FOLEY: Yes, Senator.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. I've discussed with Senator Groene what this amendment does. He has explained why he doesn't support it. I don't know whether it would hurt or help what these groups are trying to do or intending to do by having a bill presented. But for the record, instead of the limitation in terms of the duration of that agreement, my amendment would add two years and raise it from three to five. If you haven't thought about it but you are going to give Senator Groene what he wants in this-- which is the opposite of not giving the Chair of that committee yesterday the courtesy of an amendment being adopted, that's the way it will go. And I'll accept that, but I've got another amendment that's prepared already. So in the interest of collegiality when the vote is taken on this amendment, I'll ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote. Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Groene.

SENATOR GROENE: Thank you, Mr. President. I apologize to my colleagues that I sat in a cursed seat where two senators before became the attention of Senator Chambers. That's a joke. LB63 just happened to be placed in a wrong spot on the agenda after a bill that was defeated. But this is a simple bill. It needs to go forward. At 11:10 is the three hours which would trigger the filibuster where it would be taken off the agenda. And then it would be a filibuster vote after the next three hours of 33 votes. Everything we've discussed, all the votes indicate that it's a good bill and needs to go forward and I appreciate Senator Chambers making his point and then using my bill as a vehicle to make his point but I think he even understands good legislation needs to go forward and when we really do filibusters, let's really have it in our heart that that's a bad bill and that's when we should use it. But thank you, Senator Chambers, for giving your lesson. Freshmen learned a lot and I had a refresher course on rules and policies, but let's go forward. There's some other good senators that have good bills that need to be heard so that they can be acted on prior to the priority bills hitting the floor and then they go to the end of the line. Thank you, sir. A green vote on LB63 and I appreciate Senator Chambers analyzing my bill and his recommendation, but his FA2 is not necessary to create good legislation. So please vote red on FA2. Thank you.



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FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Groene. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on FA2.

CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I was not mindful of the time passing. The Speaker informed me of where we are with reference to this bill and the amount of time taken on it. My goal at this point is not to kill a bill like the one Senator Groene has because I don't have any particular objection to anything in it, the way it exists currently or the way it may come to exist. But there's a part of it I don't like and that's shifting money to the rural interests. I'm not going to try to stop this bill from moving on General File, but I'm going to take time on it on Select File and I'm going to lay on and hammer on that point of the rural senators wanting to get what they want for the rural area. There's nothing in this bill that benefits anybody other than the rural people and their area. If somebody from a city happens to be there and there's an accident or something and one of these persons comes, that's not what I'm talking about. That's not the aim of this bill. The aim is to give the rural people something that they don't want to pay for on their own. A bill could be drafted and every county that would be a part of this agreement, whoever would be a part of it, would have the obligation to raise the funds necessary to support it. Let the rurals take care of their own. But they don't want to do that. And the rest of these weak-kneed senators are going to let that be done. You'll be whining, whining, but you won't do anything. And they know you won't do anything. They're more worried about me than all the rest of you put together. They know it and you know it. And there's only so far you can push people, then it becomes your job to do the rest of it yourself. But since my intent was not to kill Senator Groene's bill, when I'm told that I have one minute left, then I will take a portion of that one minute, and then I'll do something that might surprise some of you but it won't surprise Senator Groene. What you did yesterday-- some of you surprised me. Some of you-- Senator Stinner surprised me, for example. I could go right down the list and mention the ones who surprised me. Senator Brewer surprised me. But neither of them will surprise me again, I guarantee you that. And you know why I call people by name? Because I'm not like the rest of you. I'm not going to slither around here and say something and not let the ones that I'm offended by be unaware of it. The rest of you, I don't have to mention by name because most of you I hadn't looked for much from you anyway, but those two. But they don't have to do anything to please me. There are others they want to please and they please those others--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --so they did what they came down here for. We just are going in opposite directions, I've come to understand. And Mr. President, I will withdraw that pending amendment.

FOLEY: Without objection, FA2 is withdrawn. Senator Groene, you're recognized to close on the advance of the bill.

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GROENE: I think the bill has been well-explained. Please vote green. We need 30 votes because it has an E-clause. We'll wait to see if we have the 30 before I call the house. Thank you.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Groene. The question for the body is the advance of LB63 to E&R Initial. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record vote has been requested. Record, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read.) The vote is 41 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the vote to advance the bill.

FOLEY: LB63 advances. Proceeding now to LB32. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, LB32 by Senator Kolterman. (Read LB32 by title for the first time.) The bill was introduced on January 10, referred to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. That Committee placed the bill on General File with no committee amendments.

FOLEY: Senator Kolterman, you're recognized to open on LB32.

KOLTERMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. In 2003, the county and state employees' defined contribution plans was closed to new members. Since 2003, all new county and state employees have automatically been enrolled in the cash balance plan. In 2003, current employees were given the option of moving to the cash balance plan and were given additional opportunities to opt in to the cash balance plan again in 2007 and 2012. Approximately 15 percent of the county and state employees have chosen to remain in the defined contribution plan. These members decrease each year as members terminate and/or retire. I was asked to introduce this bill on behalf of the Nebraska Investment Council. As part of the Nebraska Investment Council's ongoing review of investments, the council staff has reviewed the current defined contribution and deferred compensation plan investment options. As part of its review, council staff has discussed best practices and plan construction with the council's investment consultant, Aon. Since the investment options are listed in the County and State Employees Retirement Acts, legislation had to be introduced and established to change these investment options. The last time the investment options were updated was in 2006. The Nebraska Investment Council is recommending making the following changes to the investment options: replace the age-based, premixed, (balanced) and investor select option with Target Date Funds; remove the money market investment option; and remove the Standard and Poor's Index Fund. Investment options will also continue to include: an investor's select account invested under the direction of the State Investment Officer with an asset allocation investment strategy substantially similar to the investment allocations made by the SIO for the Defined Benefit plans; a stable return account that provides capital preservation and consistent steady returns; an

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equities account; and a fixed income account in fixed income instruments. These same investment options are used for members of the deferred comp accounts and for the State Patrol officers who have entered the Deferred Option Retirement Plan, known as DROP. The changes and timing of the changes were worked out in consultation with NPERS, who administers these plans and who contracts with plan record keeper, Ameritas. The effective date is January 1, 2021, in order to give NPERS sufficient time to educate members who designate their own investments and for Ameritas to make the appropriate programming changes. We met with the Nebraska Investment Council and NPERS staff during the interim on this bill. We also met with representatives of NACO and NAPE/AFSCME. LB32 was advanced from committee unanimously. There are currently approximately 3,400 active county and state members in this plan, and so this really is-- is directed to their advantage. With that, I would ask for your support and would hope that you could advance this to Select File and I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Kolterman. Is there any discussion on LB32? Seeing none, Senator Kolterman, you're recognized to close on the advance of the bill.

KOLTERMAN: Vote green. Thank you.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Kolterman. Members, you've heard the discussion of LB32. The question for the body is the advance of the bill to E&R Initial. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 42 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill.

FOLEY: LB32 advances. Proceeding now to LB65. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, LB65, introduced by Senator Groene. (Read LB65 by title for the first time.) The bill was introduced on January 10 of this year, referred to the General Affairs Committee, placed on General File with no committee amendments.

FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Groene, you're recognized to open on LB65.

GROENE: Thank you, Mr. President. This is a simple bill to catch up electrical regulations with modern times in technology. It was brought to me by local electricians and horizontal boring contractors in my Chamber of Commerce where existing law says that any application or-- of installing electrical substructure, like even conduit, had to be done by a licensed electrician. Times have changed. We used to take a Ditch Witch and dig a trench and lay the conduit in it and

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tear up concrete to put electrical wiring under structures. New technology, horizontal boring, it-- they are able to bore under the structure, under streets, under sidewalks, under lawns, and pinpoint where it comes out. Electricians do not own these half-a-million-dollar pieces of equipment. Boring contractors, drilling companies own them. And the old statute said that the person operating the machine, because they-- these machines actually install the conduit. And the old law indicated that an electrician had to run that machine. This bill changes that, that the owner of the boring-- horizontal boring machine, who is well trained--an electrician is not--in running that piece of equipment, only has to be supervised by an electrician or a journeyman electrician to make sure the conduit is installed at the right depth and for codes. It's a simple bill. It just catches our electric code up to modern technology. So I'd appreciate a quick green light on LB65-- did you hear that, Senator Chambers? --and advance this bill. At present, there's an understanding between the Electrical Codes Division and local contractors that they're kind of looking the other way and not enforcing it because we've got to get our work done at a timely manner and at a cost-effective manner. We need to put into statute what should be common practice. Thank you.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Groene. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA3.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on FA3.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, another learning experience. I had no way of knowing for sure that Senator Kolterman would call in that chit, c-h-i-t, but he did. So now I have to write amendments to this bill on the fly. I will make one thing as clear as I can. I am not trying to kill Senator Groene's bill. I'm not even going to ask him even any questions on it. That prior bill, I really had questions. I wanted some things into the record about taking money out of that fund to go to rural interests exclusively. I wanted to point out that the fund obviously has too much money in it. I also, even though I didn't make it clear on the record, object to any of that money going into the General Fund to be appropriated as General Fund money is appropriated. Because of what I'm doing this morning, when we get to Select File, I will not take as much time on Senator Groene's bill as I did today. He has paid his debt, that collective debt which all these Chairpersons have contracted as far as I'm concerned. But there are issues that I'm going to take with that bill for the reasons that I touched on earlier. Today I have one hour and one minute to take remaining to fulfill another promise that I made to the Legislature. So I'm beginning right now. And this is the way you write amendments when you have no particular interest in the bill and you need to put something up there immediately. On page 3, line 6, this is what the first line says, not the whole sentence: A person who is the directional boring contractor may install. I'm going to strike that first word, which is the letter

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"A," the word is "A," and substitute the word "Any." Then instead of saying, "A person" who is the directional, etcetera, it will say "Any person" who is a directional. There is nothing substantive about this amendment. It does not alter what this sentence says. It does not alter the meaning of the sentence. This is one of those where it gives me a chance to come down squarely on the issue that I'm upset about, and that's what those Chairpersons did in not allowing the adoption of a committee amendment. Even though Senator Wayne happens to be the Chairperson, I would have made that same-- I would have responded the same way that I did because I feel an institutional issue was before us. The Legislature, its Chairpersons had taken a position that I deem to have been inappropriate, rude, vindictive, petty, uncalled for, and in violation of what traditionally has been done. Anybody is free to disagree with me, but I've stated the purpose behind what I'm doing and I'm going to do it. What I could do is take every bill that we have to cloture, every one of them, and all of them would have a successful cloture vote. And because of the way you crafted your rules--I shouldn't tell you this because you don't pay attention--the Speaker may determine, based on what he deems to be or have been the quality of the debate, that a cloture vote should be allowed sooner. And the Speaker is like a dictator in that regard because you all gave him that authority. He would be a legitimate, based on the rules, dictator created by the rules in the same way that your U.S. Constitution created the blueprint for a constitutional dictatorship. And that's what you all are experiencing now, but most of you are too dull to be aware of it. Your President is testing you. I saw where he is talking about bringing 2,750 more troops to the southern border. This is a nonmilitary use of the military. And there is a guy named Bolton who is the Svengali behind Trump. He is the one who told Trump to pull out of another treaty and he is the one who moved him to pull out of this nuclear arms control treaty with Russia. You all need to pay attention to what he's doing and Bolton is telling him how to test these idiotic Americans, these white people who think they're so smart. And not a puppy whimpered when this dictator said he's going to move nearly 3,000 troops to the border. Is he going to authorize them to use lethal force against women, children, unarmed men? If he did, you all wouldn't do anything. You might whimper then, but he knows that you're not gonna stand up. Now I had said that what happened is that the constitution is a blueprint for a constitutional dictatorship. And being the devil's advocate, I doubt that the ones who put together the constitution realized what would happen because they did not envision that a lunatic would be elected to office by the American public and, once elected, they would be so supine and the Congress would be so gutless that this man can undermine what your country supposedly stands on, stands for. My country? I was a slave when you put your country together. This is not my country. I don't have the rights today that that modified constitution said that I should have. You got a racist over there in the Secretary of State's Office right now trying to figure a way to deprive black people of the right to vote and whoever brings that bill to this Legislature, and when it comes on this floor, that is the 90th day of the Legislature. But you can get a cloture vote because the interest of black people will be at stake. I know what's going on and what they're planning on. And that Secretary of State is a racist. I said it and I mean it and I'd say it to his face if he came and stood in front of me.

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FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: And he's demonstrated it on other occasions. All of the problems with elections recently have been by Republicans who are in a position to govern the elections that are going forward, not voters, and certainly not black people, Latinos, Native Americans, and poor white people. Republican leaders, and he's not talking about any problems in Nebraska. So if he talks about inappropriate operation of the elections, it is Republicans he's talking about having done it. Why don't they have a house member in whichever Carolina it is, North or South? Because an operative for the "Repelican" who got the most votes was found to have doctored and stuffed the ballot boxes. The leader did it. And this racist sitting in this office in this Capitol Building--

FOLEY: That's time, Senator, but you may continue on your next opportunity.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. He ought to take issue with what I'm saying if he's not a racist, but he cannot establish that he's not. Now I'm going to be the devil's advocate. Those men that you call so smart, those Founding Fathers, who at the same time they were founding this country were founding illegitimate bloodlines by having sex with black women and black girls, teenagers--and you call them great men, it's disgusting--those are your leaders. They're not mine. But George Washington is the father of every black person named Washington and it's hard to find a white person in this country named Washington. Check it out. And I'm supposed to overlook that? So here is how I give your Founding Fathers a way out. Georges Clemenceau, pronounce it any way you want to, and his first name has an "s" on it, so I'm going to spell it for the sake of the transcribers, G-e-o-r-g-e-s, Georges--or don't the French know that the name should be singular?--last name C-l-e-m-e-n-c-e-a-u. This is what he said: Richard Rumbold--you don't know whether that's what he said or not because you don't know who Richard Rumbold was and he didn't say that. "America is the only nation in history which, miraculously, has gone directly from barbarism to degeneration without the usual interval of civilization." So when Trump talks about making this America great again, what is he talking about, sending it back to barbarism when there was slavery, or currently to the status of degeneration, of which he is exhibit number one? Cheats on his wife, grabbed women by their privates, and joked about it, had affairs with these women who are supposed to be loose. That's what your President did, the example. Is he the example of the upstanding fathers of your country? Yes, he is. Just like them, he's doing what they did. I want that statement again. "America is the only nation in history which, miraculously, has gone directly from barbarism to degeneration without the usual interval of civilization." You cannot find a period in America's history where genuine civilization prevailed. Soon as they left slavery, they went immediately into segregation and the lynching of black people. This country has never been great, as far as I'm concerned. I said I was going to give your Founding Fathers a way out. You know that America has never been civilized. This is what a guy named Macaulay, part of his name is Babington, but Macaulay is what he's known

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by. He wrote a History of England and in Volume 1, Chapter 1, he wrote the following. Richard Rumbold, R-u-m-b-o-l-d, never would believe--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --that Providence had sent a few men into the world ready, booted, and spurred to ride, and millions readily saddled and bridled to be ridden. That's what happened in America: these white men booted, spurred, saddled, and ready to ride, and millions of Americans bridled, saddled and ready to be ridden. Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You're recognized now for your third opportunity.

CHAMBERS: I have to say what Methuselah said, who live 969 years, and time came for him to die. And he said what I'm going to say about this being my third time: Already? People are never ready. So they may as well die after six months. You know why people fear death so much when they die only once? It's for such a long time. And I'm going to write you all a little rhyme about that. I wanted to get those things into the record and I have something that I think I'm going to hand out today since I've been doing so much talking about the "Bibble" and I did it yesterday. So I'm going to have the-- a page come and hand this out for you all to see. And since people might be watching, will not know what it says, it's a picture of a reconstruction by scientists and others of what Jesus probably looked like and a picture of me right next to it. And both of them look like black men. You know one of them is. And under the picture of the one not me, it says in all caps, "Jesus?" This computer-generated image of what Jesus may have looked like was created using a 2,000-year-old skull of a Jewish man. Cues, c-u-e-s, on hair and skin tone were taken from third-century frescoes of Jewish faces. So what is this of having pictures of Jesus painted like a white man? In Poland they have a famous painting called the Black Madonna. Mary was black and so was the child she's holding. Other countries are not quite as racist when it comes to that as America. But since I may not have enough time on this time around, I'm going to give more when I'm recognized to close. Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on FA3.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Here is a little rhyme titled "Wanna bet...?" W-a-n-n-a, bet, dot-dot-dot, question mark. I'll lay odds of five against seven / You're less eager to go to heaven / If indeed the theory is true / That Jesus resembles me, underlined, more than you. And this information I'm giving you was published in the Omaha World-Herald March 28, 2001. Then under the picture of me, which is a photograph, this is the rhyme, and it was written March 30, 2001. If this new depiction is true, / More like me Christ looks than you. So when you all see these pictures of a white Jesus and a white Mary, that's nonsense and it is not true. Everything

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about your Christian religion is phony and faked. Let me read this article. It's from the Associated Press, dateline, London. The headline: Jesus' life, face get new look in TV series. Was Jesus dark skinned? Was he actually born in a cave? "Jesus: The Complete Story," a new documentary television series coproduced by the British Broadcasting Corporation, considers these questions in its attempt at a purely scientific investigation into the messiah of Christendom. Continuing with the article: The combination of new scientific and archaeological discoveries with a reevaluation of the historicity of the gospels has allowed us to tell the story of Jesus in a fresh and exciting way, unquote, coproducer Michael W-a-k-e-l-i-n said of the three-part series which will begin airing Sunday. The documentary is to be broadcast in the United States in its entirety April 15 on the Discovery Channel. For the series, a computer-generated image has been created to suggest that Jesus' face-- what Jesus' face may have looked like, contrary to the fair-skinned and fine-featured image familiar since medieval times. The new image was created by a forensic artist at the University of Manchester using the 2,000-year-old skull of a Jewish man from Israel. The idea of a darker Jesus is becoming more accepted among Christians--a dark-skinned Jesus was selected in 1999, for instance, for a special edition of the National Catholic Reporter, an American independent news weekly. The series goes beyond the skin-tone question, challenging another widely accepted image of Jesus: his birth in a wooden stable. The program argues that he was more likely born in a cave. It also questions whether Judas betrayed Jesus to the Roman authorities, suggesting that a mistranslation could mask that fact that Jesus worked with Judas to provoke his own arrest. Using diverse historical accounts, the documentary weaves a tale of how a young carpenter may have been inspired to lead a pacifist rebellion--

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: --against the establishment in Jerusalem, launching a religion now embraced by 2 billion people, a rebellion. And throughout the "Bible," the parts of it that deal in the New Testament with Jesus, he is attacking the religious establishment and the religions. When they came for him at the time of his betrayal, or purported, alleged betrayal by Judas, the leaders were the priests and the leaders of the church. Thank you, Mr. President.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Members, you heard the discussion on FA3. The question for the body is the adoption of the amendment. Those in favor vote aye-- Senator Chambers?

CHAMBERS: [RECORDER MALFUNCTION] the house and a roll call vote.

FOLEY: 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, please.



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CLERK: 18 ayes, 3 nays to place the house under call.

FOLEY: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. Those unexcused senators please return to the Chamber and record your presence. The house is under call. All members please check in. The house is under call. Senators McCollister and Friesen, please return to the Chamber and check in. All unexcused members are now present. The question before the body is the adoption of FA3. A roll call vote has been requested. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken.) 0 ayes, 43 nays.

FOLEY: FA3 is not adopted. I raise the call. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider that vote.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your reconsideration motion.

CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to take us until noon, I guarantee that. Speaking of "gare-rone-tee" (phonetically), I got that word pronunciation from a guy who was a chef. He was on television. He came from New Orleans and he spoke with a heavy, I guess you call it, Cajun accent. And he told jokes on everybody. He'd be cooking and he'd be telling a joke. He said that some people were going to put a telephone pole in place. So while it was laying on the ground, a guy and the man, he said he measured it. But he pronounced it "me-jud" (phonetically) it, as though there's a "j." He "me-jud" that big bar and found out what it was from one end to the other end. Then when they set it in place, he got a ladder and he went up that ladder and took his measuring-- I'm trying to think what he called it. It was a tape measure, but he had another name for it. And when he came down, people were looking at him. They said, what did you just do? He said, well, I "me-jud" that pole. And they said, well, you measured it while it was on the ground. He said, right. They said, well, why did you measure it again? He said, well, when it was on the ground, I measured it to see how long it was; when it was here like this, I measured it to see how tall it was. Now he had a point. But the point of the chef was to tell a joke and he told a good joke. Not all jokes are hilarious. And what I'm going to use that as a lead into are some comments made by a white man named William Lloyd Garrison. He was the publisher of an antislavery newspaper called The Liberator. And Garrison lived only 74 years on this earth. The good die young. That's why I'm still kicking. Let me read what Garrison printed in 1831, and it will apply to some of the attitudes of people in this Legislature. "Let southern oppressors tremble-- let their secret abettors tremble-- let their northern apologists tremble-- let all the enemies of the persecuted blacks tremble." Trump's your leader and that's his attitude. Next comment, "I will be as harsh as truth, and as uncompromising as justice. On this subject, I do not wish to think, or speak, or write, with moderation." That's my attitude. Those

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are my words I interjected. No! No! Tell a man whose house is on fire, to give a moderate alarm; tell him to moderately rescue his wife from the hands of the ravisher; tell the mother to gradually extricate her babe from the fire into which it has fallen; -- but urge me not to use moderation--" This is a white man talking to white people, and you're going to tell a black man to simmer down, be moderate, and the racism is as strong now as it ever was and may be more devastating? Why, you must be out of your mind. "I am in earnest--" he misspelled my name, but he's not saying he is Ernest. "I am in earnest-- I will not equivocate-- I will not excuse-- I will not retreat a single inch-- AND I WILL BE HEARD." I buy that. Popeye gave me my mantra. William Lloyd Garrison gives me my credo: I am in earnest-- I will not equivocate-- I will not excuse-- I will not retreat a single inch-- AND I WILL BE HEARD. And this is for the racists up north, "The compact which exists between the North and the South is a covenant with death and an agreement with hell." The lords of the lash, the lords of the loom, and all the actual racists around here who pretend they're something else, their works betray what they are. Continuing, "With reasonable men, I will reason; with humane men I will plead; but to tyrants I will give no quarter, nor waste arguments where they will certainly be lost." That's why I said makes no sense for a black man to argue with certain white people. They don't know enough, they don't care enough, and it's not gonna do any good. I do what I do for the record and for people out there watching who know that somebody like me needs to be here and needs to say it. And I can see that I'm running more and more out of this Chamber, but I want to go back to the "Bibble." Let me read what Mark Twain said about the "Bibble." He wrote Letters from Earth and this is an excerpt: The Bible has noble poetry in it and some clever fables and some blood-drenched history and a wealth of obscenity and upwards of 1,000 lies. There was a play called Porgy and Bess. The lyrics of the music that appeared, the songs were written by Ira Gershwin. George wrote the music or was the composer. Ira lived to be 87. George only lived to be 39. Lyrics: It ain't necessarily so, / It ain't necessarily so. / The things that you read in the Bible-- the things that you're liable / To read in the Bible, / It ain't necessarily so. Instead of telling you the story about Peter and his betrayal of Jesus, I decided to read it from the "Bibble." But I didn't want to bring a Bible" here and stand here with that book in my hands. So this comes from the 26th chapter of the gospel according to Matthew, 31st verse. Some young guy-- well, I don't have to give the background. Then Jesus sayeth unto them, talking to his disciples, All ye shall be offended because of me this night, for it is written I will smite the shepherd and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad; but after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. Peter, like Peter Ricketts, the hypocrite, Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. And I'm adding this-- this is the rock, Peter. Continuing from the "Bibble," Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee that this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise, also, said all the disciples. All of them said it, a bunch of cowards.

FOLEY: One minute.

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CHAMBERS: Jesus knew everything. But they countermanded what he said. Then Judas purportedly betrayed Jesus and told these people led by the priests and the heads of the church that the one he kissed was the one that they wanted and to lay hands on him and don't turn him loose. So these people came with soldiers and others. And the other day, in my haste in wanting to add a little salt, said that Peter took the sword and cut a soldier's ear off. Actually, it was a servant of the high priest. That's whose ear was cut off. But Jesus did stick it back on his head and said, Put up the sword, he who lives by the sword shall die by the sword. I will turn on my light.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Cavanaugh, you're recognized.

CAVANAUGH: Thank you. I just wanted to wish those that are celebrating-- the Lunar New Year is today and I just wanted to say happy Lunar New Year. Thank you.

FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Cavanaugh. Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

CHAMBERS: In that same hour, said Jesus to the multitudes-- this is after they had grabbed him-- are you come out, as against a thief, with swords and staves to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple and you laid no hold on me. But all this was done that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. This sentence describes most of the people here when the Governor speaks. Quote, then all the disciples forsook him and fled. They forsake the Legislature as an institution. They turn it over to the Governor or the Attorney General. And like a covey of frightened quails, they scatter in all directions, and after just having told Jesus we will stand with you and though we die. Peter said it but the "Bibble" said, so said all the other disciples. So then we continue with the story. I could tell it by heart, but the "Bibble" sometimes uses quaint language which is quite interesting. These people who had Jesus, this little fellow-- Senator Erdman and I have a two-inch difference in terms of how tall he was-- then did they spit in his face and buffeted him, and others smote him with the palms of their hands, saying, prophesy unto us, thou Christ, who is he that smote thee? Now here is the fall of "Peter the Rock" to the status of "Peter Rabbit." Now Peter sat without in the palace and a damsel came unto him saying, Thou also was with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all saying, I know not what thou sayest. And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him and said unto them that were there, this fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. And again he denied with an oath: I do not know the man--his friend, his leader. And he said, when his friend needed a friend, I do not know the man. And after a while came unto him they that stood by and said to Peter, surely thou also were of them, for thy speech "bewrayeth" you. They mean "betrayeth." That was some of that quaint language. The "Bibble" spells it b-e-w-r-a-y-e-t-h. Then began he to curse and to swear saying, I know not the man. And immediately [CROWING] the cock crew and Peter remembered the word of Jesus which said unto him, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me

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thrice. And he went out and wept bitterly. How many times will your Governor, who pretends to be a Catholic, deny Christ? His name is Peter. I'm sure in his life he's denied him more than three times.

FOLEY: One minute.

CHAMBERS: That was a dramatic pause. When I'm recognized, I have something I'll read.

FOLEY: Senator Chambers, you're recognized for the third time.

CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. This was in The World-Herald, written by Martha Stoddard, February 5, headline: TV [SIC] Ameritade founder Joe Ricketts expresses "deep regret" for racist anti-Muslim e-mails. "A series of e-mails obtained and published on-line Monday appears to show Joe Ricketts, founder of TD Ameritrade, sharing and endorsing racist jokes and conspiracy theories." Ricketts, 77, "issued a statement apologizing for the e-mails after they were posted." Joe Ricketts is the father of Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts. And as they say, the nut doesn't fall far from the tree. Continuing, "I deeply regret and apologize for some of the exchanges I had in my e-mails," he said in a statement on his Web site. "Sometimes I received e-mails that I should have condemned. Other times I've said things that don't reflect my value system. I strongly believe that bigoted ideas are wrong." No, what he's sorry about is that he got caught. Jesus said: Of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. He spoke what was inside of him. Nobody put a gun to his head and made him say this. He articulated his values and his son lives his racist values. Continuing: The e-mails, which were posted on the Web site Splinter include anti-Muslim sentiments. In one, Joe Ricketts said, "Muslims are naturally my (our) enemy." Why is he going to say Muslims are his enemy? He's the enemy of Muslims. He's the enemy of black people. He's a racist, a segregationist, a white supremacist, and the head of TD Ameritrade who got a Wyoming-- or a Montana residence so he doesn't have to pay Nebraska taxes after using TIF money for his Ameritrade outfit in Omaha. That's you all's leader. Don't get upset with me because I tell you what you follow. It's my job to do it. I'm following in your Jesus' footsteps. But I'm not a "Jesusite." I'm not a Christian. But everybody speaks the truth on occasion, even this sucker that I'm reading about. But the truth he is forced to tell is one that condemns him. Continuing: The e-mail exchanges were from 2009 through 2013. Some have racist content, including one from April 2011 when-- in which Ricketts responded "great laugh" regarding a forwarded joke whose punchline includes the word "n----." I know what he thinks about black people. I know what his racist son does too. Both of them are cowards. They are racists.

FOLEY: One minute.

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CHAMBERS: And I'm not supposed to say it? You must be out of your mind. And since that's what he thinks of me, he ought to come to my office or wherever he wants me to meet him and call me an "n" to my face. That's what we in this state deal with. And you white people think we ought to go along and swallow spit? After using the "n" word, continuing: He responded "I like this" to another forwarded message that complains about special days for certain groups, including Yom Hashoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day. He doesn't like Jews either.

FOLEY: Time, Senator, but you may close on the motion.

CHAMBERS: That was my third time?

FOLEY: Correct.

CHAMBERS: Already? All right. Listen to the hypocrite. The Splinter article does not say how the Web site obtained the e-mails. Joe Ricketts established the Cloisters on the Platte, a multimillion-dollar religious retreat center along the Platte River south of Gretna that opened last year. He founded other charities as well, including the Opportunity Education Foundation, the Ricketts Conservation Foundation, and The Ricketts Art Foundation. Maybe he calls that doing penance. I understand from what I read in the paper that that-- I got to read what-- Cloisters on the Platte shows the 12 Stations of the Cross. Well, there's a 13th one that he and his racist, hypocritical, Christ-denying son should put. So what I intend to do, at whatever point my death penalty bill is discussed, whether it makes it to the floor or not, I'm going to lay out all pictures of that 12 and there's going to be a 13th Station of the Cross and it's going to have an execution gurney because that's what "Daddy" Ricketts, the racist, and spoiled "Brat-baby" Ricketts in the Governor's Mansion believe in, contrary to what the Catholic church's official position is. And then these hypocrites put something religious out there and you all say, well, he's a good man. There was a guy in the early history of the Catholic church who sold indulgences--you can find his name--sold indulgences. Ricketts is trying to buy absolution. Both of them are worthless. Oh, they have a lot of money. But as human beings, they are worthless. The only way I will not take us until noon is if your God answers your prayer and strikes me dead. But maybe if your God is what you say that God is, he might find a greater affinity with me than with you. I'm not the one who takes his name in vain every morning as you all do. Then I listen to you and watch you on this floor. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves. He whipped people like you out of the synagogue. But they were selling animals then. And he took a whip and whipped them out, and that's what he'd do to you all, the gentle Jesus. But instead of being the lamb of God, that day he was the lion of Judah and he knew what to do with you. Mr. President, I will ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote.

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FOLEY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. 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; those opposed vote nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 20 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call.

FOLEY: The house is under call. Senators, please return to the Chamber and check in. The house is under call. All senators please return to the Chamber and check in. The house is under call. Senators Wayne, Stinner, Lathrop, Bolz, Lindstrom, Clements, Hunt, La Grone, please return to the Chamber and check in. The house is under call. Senator Wayne, if you would please return to the Chamber and check in. Thank you, Senator Chambers. We shall proceed. The question before the body is adoption of the reconsideration motion. A roll call vote has been requested. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken.) 1 aye, 39 nays on the motion to reconsider.

FOLEY: The reconsideration motion is not adopted. I raise the call. Items for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, the-- an announcement, the Agriculture Committee will have an Executive Session at 1:10 in Room 1524 today, Agriculture Committee at 1:10. Hearing notices from the Revenue Committee, those signed by Senator Linehan. Enrollment and Review reports LB259, LB355, LB56, LB75, LB11, LB57, LB121 to Select File. Amendments to be printed, Senator Pansing Brooks to LB164-- LB154, excuse me; Senator Bolz, LB108; Senator Crawford to LB122; and Senator Chambers to LB65. Name adds, Senator Hunt, LB141 and LB235; Pansing Brooks, LB486; Lowe, LB605; Stinner, LB605; Pansing Brooks, LB614 and LR18; Linehan, LR18.

Mr. President, a priority motion. Senator Arch would move to adjourn the body until Wednesday morning, February 6, at 9:00 a.m.

FOLEY: Members, you've heard the motion to adjourn. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. We are adjourned.