

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office  
Floor Debate August 1, 2024

**KELLY:** Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the sixth day of the One Hundred and Eighth Legislature, First Special Session. Our chaplain for today is Senator Erdman. Please rise.

**ERDMAN:** Father, we thank you for this opportunity to gather here today to do the work of the people. We pray that you would guide and direct us to make decisions that are not only pleasing to you, but would be beneficial to those that we serve. Today we bring to you Senator Sanders and her husband, Rick. We pray that you would comfort them, give him strength, give the doctors wisdom. Also for Senator Raybould as she goes through her treatments. We pray they be successful and she can return back to normal. Lord, we thank you for all those who are working out this morning to clean up the debris from yesterday's storm. We do appreciate the rain that you did send, but we pray that you give them safety as they clear these streets, and we pray that you give the truck drivers courteous driving so that others can function on our streets with the lights out. We just thank you for the opportunity to bring these requests to you, because we know that you hear us, and when you hear us, you answer our prayers. So we thank you for being here in this special session, and we just pray that it would turn out to actually be special, and we would actually do something to help people in the state of Nebraska with their tox-- tax burden. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**KELLY:** Recognize Senator McDonnell for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MCDONNELL:** Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**KELLY:** I call to order the sixth day of the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Special Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

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

**KELLY:** Thank you. Are there any corrections for the journal?

**CLERK:** I have no corrections this morning, sir.

**KELLY:** Are there any messages, reports or announcements?

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**CLERK:** There are, Mr. President. Amendments to be printed from Senator Erdman to LB1. Additionally, committee reports concerning gubernatorial appointments to the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, the Game and Parks Commission, both from the Natural Resources Committee. Additionally, a letter from the Governor concerning an appointment to the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, an additional appointment to the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and an appointment to the Board of Emergency Me--Emergency Medical Services. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

**KELLY:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Speaker Arch, you are recognized for an announcement.

**ARCH:** Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, I've had a lot of questions about "what does next week look like," and I want to kind of give you, my, my perspective on it. So, with respect to the schedule next week, we will not meet in session on Monday or Tuesday. OK? The members of the Revenue Committee are going to need time to recover from six full days of public hearings, 67 bills this week. Six days, and will need time to regroup, put together a package for consideration to the full Legislature. There's just not been time for them to meet, and they need that time. So Wednesday, August 7, we will convene at 1:00 p.m. and take up the gubernatorial confirmation reports that have been advanced by committees, and there's several of those. It's my hope we can deba-- we can begin debate on a property tax package on Thursday, consisting of revenue component from the Revenue Committee and funding components from the Appropriations Committee. That, of course, will be dependent upon the work of the committees. Although I had hoped not to schedule any Saturdays, given General File debate will not start any earlier than next Thursday, I do intend to schedule Saturday, August 10 as a session day. Additionally, please plan on working late nights both Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, and potentially working a full day on Saturday. So, we're now at the point where the hearings are going to be wrapping up at the end of Saturday. The bill is going to be put together by the Revenue Committee, Appropriations Committee, and we'll begin our work on the floor then, beginning Wednesday with, with hopefully, at this point, a bill to be debated on Thursday. Thank you, Mr. President.

**KELLY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**ARCH:** Thank you.

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**KELLY:** Mr. Clerk for items.

**CLERK:** Thank you, Mr. President. Notice of committee hearing from the Revenue Committee. In addition, Mr. President, a priority motion. Senator DeBoer would move to adjourn the body until Friday, August 2, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

**KELLY:** Members, you have heard the motion to adjourn. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed, say nay. The Legislature is adjourned.