## FIRST DAY - NOVEMBER 14, 2008

### LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

### FIRST DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Friday, November 14, 2008

### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Kruse.

### ROLL CALL

Pursuant to a proclamation by the Honorable Governor of the State of Nebraska, Dave Heineman, the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session of the Legislature of Nebraska, assembled in the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber of the State Capitol, at the hour of 3:00 p.m., Friday, November 14, 2008, and was called to order by Speaker Flood.

The roll was called and the following members were present:

Adams, Greg L.	Hansen, Thomas F.	Nantkes, Danielle
Ashford, Brad	Harms, John N.	Nelson, John E.
Avery, Bill	Heidemann, Lavon L.	Pahls, Rich
Burling, Carroll	Howard, Gwen	Pankonin, Dave
Carlson, Tom	Janssen, Ray	Pedersen, Dwite
Chambers, Ernie	Johnson, Joel T.	Pirsch, Pete
Cornett, Abbie	Karpisek, Russ	Preister, Don
Dierks, Cap	Kopplin, Gail F.	Raikes, Ronald E.
Dubas, Annette M.	Kruse, Lowen	Rogert, Kent
Engel, L. Patrick	Langemeier, Chris	Schimek, DiAnna R.
Erdman, Philip	Lathrop, Steve	Stuthman, Arnie
Fischer, Deb	Lautenbaugh, Scott	Synowiecki, John F.
Flood, Mike	Louden, LeRoy J.	Wallman, Norm
Friend, Mike	McDonald, Vickie D.	White, Tom
Fulton, Tony	McGill, Amanda	Wightman, John
Gav. Tim		-

The following members were excused:

Aguilar, Raymond Christensen, Mark Hudkins, Carol

### DECLARATION

Pursuant to a proclamation issued by the Honorable Dave Heineman, Governor of Nebraska, we are here and now assembled in the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session of the Nebraska Legislature. I, as President of the Legislature, declare that we are now open for the transaction of business.

(Signed) Speaker Flood President of the Legislature

### PROCLAMATION

BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED in the Governor by Article IV, Section 8 of the Nebraska Constitution, I, Dave Heineman, as Governor of the State of Nebraska, believing that an extraordinary occasion has arisen, DO HEREBY CALL the Legislature of Nebraska to convene in extraordinary session at the State Capitol on November 14, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering and enacting legislation on only the following subjects:

- 1. Enacting legislation to limit the application of 2008 Neb. Laws LB 157, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121, by reducing the maximum age of children to whom the statute applies; and
- 2. To appropriate funds to the Legislative Council for the necessary expenses of the extraordinary session herein called.

I direct that members of the Legislature of the State of Nebraska be notified of the convening of this extraordinary session by presenting to each of them a copy of this Proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 29th day of October, 2008.

(Signed) Dave Heineman Governor

Attest:

(Signed) John Gale Secretary of State

#### CERTIFICATE

#### State of Nebraska

United States of America,	)	
	) ss.	Secretary of State
State of Nebraska	)	•

I, John A. Gale, Secretary of State of the State of Nebraska do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the Official Roster of members of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature elected or appointed to serve in the One Hundredth Legislature, Special Session, 2008.

Further, I hereby certify that the members so listed on the Official Roster attached hereto are the duly elected or appointed members of the Unicameral Legislature in the State of Nebraska for the One Hundredth Legislature, Special Session, 2008.

Finally, I hereby certify that all election returns, abstracts, canvass and appointment records with reference to said members are on file in the office of the Secretary of State and are a matter of public record.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska.

Done at Lincoln this Tenth day of November in the year of our Lord, two thousand and eight.

(SEAL) John A. Gale, Secretary of State

DIS	STRICT/NAME	ELECTED
1	Lavon L. Heidemann	November 2, 2004
2	Dave Pankonin	November 7, 2006
3	Gail F. Kopplin	November 2, 2004
4	Pete Pirsch	November 7, 2006
5	Don Preister	November 2, 2004
6	John E. Nelson	November 7, 2006
7	John F. Synowiecki	November 2, 2004
8	Tom White	November 7, 2006
9	Gwen Howard	November 2, 2004
10	Mike Friend	November 7, 2006
11	Ernie Chambers	November 2, 2004
12	Steve Lathrop	November 7, 2006
13	Lowen Kruse	November 2, 2004
14	Tim Gay	November 7, 2006
15	Ray Janssen	November 2, 2004
16	Kent Rogert	November 7, 2006
17	L. Patrick Engel	November 2, 2004
18	Scott Lautenbaugh	Appointed November 2, 2007

•		
19	Mike Flood	November 2, 2004
20	Brad Ashford	November 7, 2006
21	Carol Hudkins	November 2, 2004
22	Arnie Stuthman	November 7, 2006
23	Chris Langemeier	November 2, 2004
24	Greg L. Adams	November 7, 2006
25	Ronald E. Raikes	November 2, 2004
26	Amanda M. McGill	November 7, 2006
27	DiAnna R. Schimek	November 2, 2004
28	Bill Avery	November 7, 2006
29	Tony Fulton	Appointed January 3, 2007
30	Norman Wallman	November 7, 2006
31	Rich Pahls	November 2, 2004
32	Russ Karpisek	November 7, 2006
33	Carroll Burling	November 2, 2004
34	Annette M. Dubas	November 7, 2006
35	Raymond Aguilar	November 2, 2004
36	John Wightman	November 7, 2006
37	Joel T. Johnson	November 2, 2004
38	Tom Carlson	November 7, 2006
39	Dwite Pedersen	November 2, 2004
40	Cap Dierks	November 7, 2006
41	Vickie D. McDonald	November 2, 2004
42	Thomas F. Hansen	November 7, 2006
43	Deb Fischer	November 2, 2004
44	Mark Christensen	November 7, 2006
45	Abbie Cornett	November 2, 2004
46	Danielle Nantkes	November 7, 2006
47	Philip Erdman	November 2, 2004
48	John N. Harms	November 7, 2006
49	LeRoy J. Louden	November 2, 2004

## **MOTION - Election of Officers**

Senator Engel moved that the following officers, recommended by the Executive Board, be elected to serve for the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session:

Clerk of the Legislature Assistant Clerk of the Legislature Sergeant at Arms Patrick J. O'Donnell Richard K. Brown Ron Witkowski

The motion prevailed.

### MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

May 6, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed to the Crime Victim's Reparations Committee:

Derek Vaughn, 8328 Sheffield St., Omaha, NE 68122

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificate and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

May 9, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed to the Nebraska Highway Commission:

Rodney Vandeberg, 2202 Chase Street, Falls City, NE 68355

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificate and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

May 28, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as Director of the Nebraska Energy Office:

Neil Moseman, 337 South 92nd Street, Omaha, NE 68114-3935

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and resume are included for your review.

(Signed) Sincerely,
Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

July 7, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission:

Robert Batt, 9820 Nottingham Dr., Omaha, NE 68114

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

July 9, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature

State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the Nebraska Board of Parole:

Rosalyn Cotton, 17189 Manderson Street, Omaha, NE 68116

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

July 9, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission:

Richard Mercer, 5815 4th Avenue, Kearney, NE 68845

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

July 9, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509 Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission:

Paul Hosford, 966 South 4th Street, Albion, NE 68620

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 1, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board:

James Stuart, Jr., 2425 Ridge Road, Lincoln NE 68512

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 5, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individuals are being

reappointed to the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board:

Darlene Noah, 900 S. Myrtle, Kimball, NE 69145 Charles Borgmann, 606 Magnet, Norfolk, NE 68701

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed to the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board:

Sammy Reagan, 709 S. 210th Circle, Elkhorn, NE 68022

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificates and applications are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 5, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individuals are being reappointed to the Crime Victim's Reparation Committee:

Scot Ford, P.O. Box 861, So. Sioux City, NE 68776 William Brueggemann, 809 1st Avenue, Plattsmouth, NE 68048 Derek Vaughn, 8328 Sheffield St., Omaha, NE 68122

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificates and applications are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

**Enclosures** 

August 22, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed as a member of the Nebraska Ethanol Board:

Charles "Tod" Brodersen, 2405 11th, Hastings, NE 68901

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and application are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 25, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed to the State Board of Health:

Dr. Paul Salansky, 2521 Whitaker Road, Nebraska City, NE 68410

Contingent upon your approval, the following individuals are being appointed to the State Board of Health:

Dr. Theodore Evans, Jr., 72815 620 Ave., Tecumseh, NE 68450 Dr. John Tennity, 5114 Deer Ridge Drive, Eagle, NE 68347 Eric Berggren, 21795 Quail Drive, Gretna, NE 68028 Dr. Dan Bizzell, 4306 Central Ave., Kearney, NE 68847 Kenneth Kester, 1835 High St., Lincoln, NE 68502

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificates and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

# August 25, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as the Commissioner of Labor:

Catherine D. Lang, 5932 Fieldcrest Way, Lincoln, NE 68512

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 25, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed to the Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board:

Jennie Cole-Mossman, 2710 Sewell, Lincoln, NE 68502

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed to the Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board:

Joni Kuzma, 2510 Brahma St., Grand Island, NE 68801

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificates and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely, (Signed) Dave Heineman

Governor

Enclosures

August 28, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds:

DeMarus Carlson, P.O. Box 100, Crofton, NE 68730

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

August 29, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed to the State Personnel Board:

Amber Brown, 1003 East 65th Street Place, Kearney, NE 68847

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

October 28, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individuals are being appointed to the Board of Emergency Medical Services:

Timothy Hoffman, 1708 West 14th, Kearney, NE 68845 Donald Harmon, 2309 Grant, Beatrice, NE 68310 Judith Henning, 335 Norman, Crete, NE 68333

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being reappointed to the Board of Emergency Medical Services:

Dr. George Tom Surber, 1202 Norfolk Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the appointment certificates and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

October 30, 2008

Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Building Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Flood and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission:

Darlene Starman, 1030 Rockhurst Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate of appointment and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely,

## (Signed) Dave Heineman Governor

Enclosures

### ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINIONS

# Opinion 08004

DATE: June 6, 2008

SUBJECT: Constitutional Rights Of Petition Circulators And

Blockers On Private Property In Nebraska.

REQUESTED BY: Senator Michael J. Flood

Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature

WRITTEN BY: Jon Bruning, Attorney General

Dale A. Comer, Assistant Attorney General Charles E. Lowe, Assistant Attorney General

In a letter to the Attorney General, you indicated that you are contemplating the introduction of "legislation that would amend the existing statutes dealing with criminal and civil trespass." You indicated further that it has come to your attention that there is concern about the activities of initiative petition circulators and "blockers" on private property in Nebraska. In that context, you asked for an Attorney General's opinion "as to whether or not petition circulators and 'blockers' have a constitutional right to remain on private property once they have been asked to leave by property owners or managers."

The primary constitutional question at issue in your opinion request is whether or not the rights to freedom of speech and assembly found in the United States and Nebraska Constitutions are implicated when the owner or manager of private property prohibits petition circulators and "blockers" from engaging in their activities on that private property. In other words, do petition circulators and "blockers" have a right under the First Amendment or art. I, § 5 of the Nebraska Constitution to continue their activities on private property after the owner or manager of that property has asked them to leave?

For purposes of this opinion we assume that "petition circulators" are individuals acting under the initiative and referendum provisions of the Nebraska Constitution, Neb. Const. art. III, §§ 1-4, who solicit and gather the signatures of registered voters on petitions so as to place measures on the ballot adopting new laws, amending the Nebraska Constitution, or revoking laws passed by the Legislature. We also assume that "blockers" are individuals who appear at locations where petition circulators are gathering signatures and seek to dissuade people from signing the petitions.

# ANALYSIS United States Constitution

So long as petition circulators and "blockers" engage in their activities peacefully, those activities of soliciting signatures and seeking to dissuade signatures are considered to be core political speech which is generally protected from governmental interference by the First and Fourteenth Amendments. See, Meyer v. Grant, 486 U.S. 414, 421-22 (1988); Buckley v. American Constitutional Law Foundation, 525 U.S. 182, 199 (1999); Bernbeck v. Moore, 936 F.Supp. 1543, 1561 (D. Neb. 1996), aff'd 126 F.3d 1114 (8th Cir. 1997).

The United States Supreme Court has made clear, however, that the First and Fourteenth Amendments protect the rights of free speech and assembly from governmental interference only; not from interference by owners of private property. In Lloyd Corporation, Ltd. v. Tanner, 407 U.S. 551 (1972), Vietnam War protesters sought to enter a large, privately-owned shopping center to distribute handbills critical of the war. They were prohibited from doing so by the owner of the shopping center which had a policy against distributing handbills on the property which were not related to the shopping center's operations. The lower courts found in favor of the protesters and enjoined the shopping center from prohibiting the handbilling. The Supreme Court reversed, holding that the First and Fourteenth Amendments do not apply to guarantee the rights of free speech and assembly on private property. In doing so the Court stated:

The basic issue in this case is whether respondents, in the exercise of asserted First Amendment rights, may distribute handbills on Lloyd's private property contrary to its wishes and contrary to a policy enforced against all handbilling. In addressing this issue, it must be remembered that the First and Fourteenth Amendments safeguard the rights of free speech and assembly by limitations on state action, not on action by the owner of private property used nondiscriminatorily for private purposes only. The Due Process Clauses and Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments are also relevant to this case. They provide that '(n)o person shall . . . be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.' There is the further proscription in the Fifth Amendment against the taking of 'private property . . . for public use, without just compensation.'

Although accommodations between the values protected by these three Amendments are sometimes necessary, and the courts properly have shown a special solicitude for the guarantees of the First Amendment, this Court has never held that a trespasser or an uninvited guest may exercise general rights of free speech on property privately owned and used nondiscriminatorily for private purposes only.

Id., 407 at 567-68. (Emphasis supplied.)

Subsequently, in Hudgens v. National Labor Relations Board, 424 U.S. 507 (1976), the Court made clear that Lloyd had, in effect, overruled an earlier decision, Amalgamated Food Employees Union v. Logan Valley Plaza, 391 U.S. 308 (1968), which suggested that the owners of a shopping center could not bar peaceful labor picketing on its privately owned property.

[W]e make clear now, if it was not clear before, that the rationale of Logan Valley did not survive the Court's decision in the Lloyd case. Not only did the Lloyd opinion incorporate lengthy excerpts from two of the dissenting opinions in Logan Valley . . . ; the ultimate holding in Lloyd amounted to a total rejection of the holding in Logan Valley.

Hudgens, 424 U.S. at 518. (Citation and footnotes omitted.) The Hudgens Court concluded that "under the present state of the law the constitutional guarantee of free expression has no part to play in a case such as this [involving labor picketing in front of a store located in a privately owned shopping center]." Id. at 521. See also, Pruneyard Shopping Center v. Robins, 447 U.S. 74, 80-81 (1980) (again explaining that Lloyd repudiated the rationale of Logan Valley to the extent that Logan Valley had concluded that because a privately owned shopping center was open to the public free speech rights necessarily applied to the property).

Citing the Hudgens decision, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals has recently set forth the basic rule succinctly: "The first Amendment guarantee of free speech guards against abridgment through state action alone. It does not inhibit private restrictions on speech." Wickersham v. City of Columbia, 481 F.3d 591, 597 (8th Cir.), cert. denied sub nom Memorial Weekend Salute to Veterans Corp v. Wickersham, 128 S.Ct. 387 (2007). See, Reimers v. Super Target of Grand Forks, 363 F.Supp. 2d 1182, 1185 (D. N.D. 2005) (noting that in Pruneyard Shopping Center the Supreme Court "reiterated that the federal constitution did not grant First Amendment rights on private property . . . .").

Based on the foregoing review of pertinent case authorities, we conclude that the federal constitutional guarantees of free speech and assembly do not apply on privately owned property used nondiscriminatorily for private purposes only, and that, therefore, petition circulators and "blockers" do not have a federal constitutional right to remain on such private property when asked by its owner to leave.

### Nebraska Constitution

The constitutional guarantee of free speech in Nebraska is found in art. I, § 5 of the Nebraska Constitution. However, the Nebraska Supreme Court has repeatedly and consistently held that the guarantee of freedom of speech under the Nebraska Constitution is the same as the guarantee of freedom of speech under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Pony Lake School District 30 v. State Committee for the Reorganization of

School Districts, 271 Neb. 173, 710 N.W.2d 609 (2006); Dossett v. First State Bank, 261 Neb. 959, 627 N.W.2d 131 (2001); State v. Moore, 258 Neb. 738, 605 N.W.2d 440 (2000); Pick v. Nelson, 247 Neb. 487, 528 N.W.2d 309 (1995). Moreover, in order to bring a claim for violation of the free speech provision in art. I, § 5 of the Nebraska Constitution, the alleged violation must involve state action. Dossett v. First State Bank, 261 Neb. at 967, 627 N.W.2d at 138 (2001). That state action requirement also formed part of the basis for the decision in the Hudgens case cited above, where the United States Supreme Court found that the First Amendment did not apply to the actions of a private commercial property owner. As a result, while there are no Nebraska cases directly on point, we do not believe that art. I § 5 of the Nebraska Constitution creates a state constitutional right for petition circulators or "blockers" to remain on private property and continue their activities after the owner has asked them to stop.

Apart from state constitutional provisions dealing with free speech, some courts from other jurisdictions have found a state constitutional right to engage in political activity including solicitation of signatures on private commercial property based upon state constitutional provisions dealing with free elections or the initiative and referendum right. Batchelder v. Allied Stores International, Inc., 388 Mass. 83, 445 N.E.2d 590 (1983)(holding that an individual had a constitutional right to solicit signatures in support of his nomination as a third party candidate in the mall of a large shopping center without the owners' permission based upon free elections provision in the state constitution); Alderwood Associates v. Washington Environmental Council, 96 Wash.2d 230, 635 P.2d 108 (1981)(determining that the initiative provisions in the state constitution gave individuals the right to solicit initiative signatures in a large regional shopping mall without permission of mall owners). However, those cases are older cases dealing with the common, public areas of shopping malls. More recent cases have reached a different conclusion. Stranahan v. Fred Meyer, Inc., 331 Or. 38, 11 P.3d 228 (2000)(ruling that the state constitutional right to initiate laws and constitutional amendments does not confer the right to solicit signatures for initiative petitions on private property over the owner's objection); People v. DiGuida, 152 Ill.2d 104, 604 N.E.2d 336 (1992)(stating that the invocation of a criminal trespass statute to exclude the circulator of a political nominating petition from a private store's premises did not violate free elections provisions in the Illinois Constitution); Fiesta Mall Venture v. Mecham Recall Committee, 159 Ariz. 371, 767 P.2d 179 (1989)(holding that a recall committee did not have a constitutionally protected right to solicit signatures on private property under the initiative, referendum and recall provisions of the Arizona Constitution); Woodland v. Michigan Citizens Lobby, 423 Mich 188, 378 N.W.2d 337 (1985)(determining that constitutional provisions with respect to initiating legislation and amending the state constitution did not prohibit owners of large private malls from denying or restricting access to private individuals seeking to exercise those rights). Consequently, while art. I, § 22 and art. III, §§ 2,3 and 4 of the Nebraska Constitution provide for free elections and initiative and referendum rights in Nebraska, we do not believe it likely that our supreme

court would hold that those provisions create a state constitutional right to conduct petition circulation or "blocking" activities on private commercial property contrary to the owner's wishes.

### CONCLUSION

For the various reasons discussed above, we do not believe that petition circulators and "blockers" have either a federal or state constitutional right to remain on private property which is used nondiscriminatorily for private purposes when asked by the owner or manager of that property to leave. As a result, owners of private property in Nebraska which is used for private purposes may generally prohibit petition circulators and "blockers" from conducting such activities on their property.

Sincerely,
JON BRUNING
Attorney General
(Signed) Dale A. Comer
Assistant Attorney General
(Signed) Charles E. Lowe
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature 17-027-20

# Opinion 08007

DATE: October 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Whether the Nebraska fireworks statutes, Neb. Rev.

Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250, and

28-1252 are preempted by federal law

REQUESTED BY: Senator Michael J. Flood

Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature

WRITTEN BY: Jon Bruning, Attorney General

Natalee J. Hart, Assistant Attorney General

You have requested a formal opinion from the Attorney General's Office regarding the state's fireworks statutes, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250, and 28-1252 (Reissue 1995, Cum. Supp. 2006), the Fire Marshal's authority to regulate fireworks, and whether the state's statutes and regulations are constitutional, including whether they are preempted by federal law. After further consultation with your staff, it appears that the primary focus of your inquiry is whether the state's fireworks statutes are preempted by federal law, and not any other constitutional issues. Accordingly, we will offer our opinion with respect to the following question:

(1) Does federal law preempt the current Nebraska fireworks statutes, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250, and 28 1252?

For the reasons set forth herein, we believe that the state's fireworks statutes are not preempted by federal law, and the Fire Marshal has the authority to regulate fireworks in Nebraska pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250, and 28-1252.

## Scope of Nebraska Statutes

The Nebraska fireworks statutes, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250, and 28-1252, define fireworks and related terms; provide authority to the State Fire Marshal to promulgate rules and regulations and to enforce the fireworks statutes; make it unlawful for any person to "possess, sell, offer for sale, bring into this state, or discharge any fireworks other than permissible fireworks;" allow the State Fire Marshal to determine what fireworks shall be permissible fireworks in the state; require certain permits and licenses; regulate the time and permissible locations for the sale of fireworks; and provide penalties for the violation of the fireworks statutes, among other things.

## Scope of Federal Statutes

The federal laws which appear relevant to your question are the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, 15 U.S.C. §§1261 through 1278a, the Hazardous Material Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. §§5101 through 5128 (formerly codified at 49 U.S.C. §§1802 through 1812), and 18 U.S.C. §§836, 841-848.

The Federal Hazardous Substances Act defines and regulates hazardous substances, including those that are flammable or combustible, and prohibits the interstate transportation of any mislabeled or banned hazardous substance. 15 U.S.C. §1261(q)(1) also provides that the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall exempt "common fireworks" from the definition of hazardous substances, and shall provide for the labeling of common fireworks to protect purchasers. The Consumer Product Safety Commission is delegated the responsibility to promulgate regulations pursuant to this act, and in doing so they have established performance standards for fireworks. Those fireworks that violate the performance standards are then classified as "banned hazardous substances" under 15 U.S.C. §1261(f)(1)(A). See Shelton v. Consumer Products Safety Com'n, 277 F.3d 998 (8th Cir., 2002).

The Hazardous Materials Transportation Act defines hazardous materials and allows the promulgation of regulations by the Secretary of Transportation for the safe transport of the hazardous materials; pursuant to such authority, the transportation of fireworks is regulated, and regulations have been developed regarding shipping papers, marking, labeling, placarding, packaging, and accepting for shipment hazardous materials,

including fireworks. 49 U.S.C. §§5101 through 5103; 49 CFR 173; Colorado Pyrotechnic Ass'n v. Meyer, 740 F. Supp. 792 (D.Colo.,1990).

18 U.S.C. §836 prohibits the transportation of fireworks into any State knowing that they are to be "delivered, possessed, stored, transshipped, distributed, sold, or otherwise dealt with in a manner or for a use prohibited by the laws of such State specifically prohibiting or regulating the use of fireworks . . . [and] the definitions of fireworks contained in the laws of the respective States shall be applied." 18 U.S.C. §§841-848 regulates and requires a license for the interstate importing, manufacture, distributing, and storing of explosive materials, which includes fireworks. See City of Wisconsin Dells v. Dells Fireworks Inc., 197 Wis.2d 1, 11, 539 N.W.2d 916, 919 (1995).

# Legal Standard for Preemption

In evaluating whether the Nebraska fireworks statutes are preempted by federal law, certain legal standards must be met. "Federal preemption arises from the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution and is the concept that state laws that conflict with federal law are invalid. Eyl v. Ciba-Geigy Corp., 264 Neb. 582, 650 N.W.2d 744 (2002), citing U.S. Const. art. VI, cl. 2." In re Lincoln Elec. System, 265 Neb. 70, 76, 655 N.W.2d 363, 369 (2003). However, "not all acts of Congress constitute preemption thereby precluding state action in a similar field." ATS Mobile Telephone, Inc. v. General Communications Co., Inc., 204 Neb. 141, 145-146, 282 N.W.2d 16, 19 (1979).

Consideration under the Supremacy Clause starts with the basic assumption that Congress did not intend to displace state law.

Pre-emption occurs when Congress, in enacting a federal statute, expresses a clear intent to pre-empt state law, when there is outright or actual conflict between federal and state law, where compliance with both federal and state law is in effect physically impossible, where there is implicit in federal law a barrier to state regulation, where Congress has legislated comprehensively, thus occupying an entire field of regulation and leaving no room for the States to supplement federal law, or where the state law stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full objectives of Congress. Pre-emption may result not only from action taken by Congress itself; a federal agency acting within the scope of its congressionally delegated authority may pre-empt state regulation.

Stewart Trucking, Inc. v. PBX, Inc., 238 Neb. 958, 963-964, 473 N.W.2d 123, 127 (1991)(internal citations omitted).

Congress explicitly may define the extent to which its enactments preempt state law. In the absence of an express Congressional command, state law is preempted if the law actually conflicts with federal law or if federal law so thoroughly occupies a legislative field as to make reasonable the inference that Congress left no room for the states to

supplement it.

Stajos v. City of Lansing, 221 Mich.App. 223, 235, 561 N.W.2d 116, 122 (1997)(internal citations omitted).

Nebraska Fireworks Statutes are not Preempted by Federal Statutes

Several of the federal laws at issue herein address to some degree the issue of state regulation, or the preemption of state statutes. 18 U.S.C. §848 states:

No provision of this chapter [18 U.S.C.A. §§841-848] shall be construed as indicating an intent on the part of the Congress to occupy the field in which such provision operates to the exclusion of the law of any State on the same subject matter, unless there is a direct and positive conflict between such provision and the law of the State so that the two cannot be reconciled or consistently stand together.

The notes<sup>1</sup> to the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, 15 U.S.C.A. § 1261, state:

(4) Paragraph  $[f](1)(B)^2$  does not prohibit a State or a political subdivision of a State from establishing or continuing in effect a requirement which is designed to protect against a risk of illness or injury associated with fireworks devices or components thereof and which provides a higher degree of protection from such risk of illness or injury than a requirement in effect under a regulation of the Commission described in such paragraph.

The Hazardous Material Transportation Act also contains language regarding preemption:

- (a) General. Except as provided [herein] and unless authorized by another law of the United States, a requirement of a State. . . is preempted if --
  - (1) [complying with both the state and federal requirement under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act] is not possible; or
  - (2) the requirement of the State . . .as applied or enforced, is an obstacle to accomplishing and carrying out [a requirement of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act].
- (b) Substantive differences.
  - (1) Except as provided [herein] and unless authorized by another law of the United States, a [state law] about any of the following subjects, that is not substantially the same as a provision of [the Hazardous Material Transportation Act or a regulation promulgated thereunder] is preempted:
    - (A) the designation, description, and classification of hazardous material.
    - (B) the packing, repacking, handling, labeling, marking, and placarding of hazardous material.

- (C) the preparation, execution, and use of shipping documents related to hazardous material and requirements related to the number, contents, and placement of those documents.
- (D) the written notification, recording, and reporting of the unintentional release in transportation of hazardous material.
- (E) the designing, manufacturing, fabricating, inspecting, marking, maintaining, reconditioning, repairing, or testing a package, container, or packaging component that is represented, marked, certified, or sold as qualified for use in transporting hazardous material in commerce.

49 U.S.C. § 5125. The Nebraska fireworks statutes do not regulate fireworks in any of the above manners, thus Nebraska law is not occupying the same sphere as that of the federal regulation. Based on the language of the federal laws alone, Nebraska statutes regulating the use and sale of fireworks are unlikely to be preempted.

In addition, courts have specifically addressed the issue of whether state fireworks statutes or municipal ordinances regulating the sale or use of fireworks are preempted by federal law. The overwhelming consensus is that they are not. "Although the federal government has partly pre-empted the field of fireworks regulation by passing the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (49 U.S.C.A. §§1801 et seq.)<sup>3</sup> and the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (15 U.S.C.A. §§1261 et seq.), plenty of room has been left for state and local governments to further regulate the sale, possession, use, and transportation of fireworks." 48 A.L.R. 5th 659, §2(a)(1997). The federal government regulates the area of fireworks, primarily concerning the transportation, packaging and labeling of fireworks shipped across state lines as a hazardous material. See Cohen v. Bredehoeft, 290 F.Supp. 1001, 1004 (D.C.Tex. 1968). This allows state and local governments the deference to regulate the retail sale and use of fireworks. These are separate spheres of regulation and the federal laws do not preclude or preempt this type of state or local regulation. "Ordinances prohibiting the possession for sale of fireworks are almost universally sustained." Stoughton v. City of Fort Worth, 277 S.W.2d 150, 153 (Tex. 1955).

The only area in which the current Nebraska fireworks statutes may potentially be preempted is with respect to transportation, which is contemplated by the exemption found in Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1245(3)(1995)<sup>4</sup>. The remaining statutes directly regulate the use and sale of fireworks in the borders of the state. The following case authorities provide further indication that the Nebraska fireworks statutes are not preempted.

When it enacted the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act in 1974, Congress included an express provision concerning preemption:

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any requirement, of a State or political subdivision thereof, which is inconsistent with any requirement set forth in this chapter, or in a regulation issued under this chapter, is preempted. 49 U.S.C.A.App. § 1811 (West 1976) (emphasis supplied)<sup>5</sup>.

By this language, Congress has unmistakenly ordained a limited form of preemption.

\* \* \*

The voluminous regulations concerning shipping, marking, labeling, placarding, and packaging are designed not to regulate the public's ultimate use of hazardous materials, but to ensure that the materials are safely transported in commerce. Still other regulations prescribe details concerning the manner in which hazardous materials may be transported. See, e.g., 49 C.F.R. §§ 177.853-177.870 (1989). A review of the statutes and regulations as a whole demonstrates that Congress and the Department of Transportation intended only to regulate the transportation of hazardous materials in commerce, leaving to the states the task of regulating sales to the public and the public's ultimate use of such materials.

Colorado Pyrotechnic Ass'n v. Meyer, 740 F.Supp. at 795 -796(emphasis added).

There is no preemption because the federal regulations cited by plaintiff<sup>6</sup> address only the packaging and classification of fireworks for interstate shipment and do not address the sale or use of fireworks within a state. Further, 18 U.S.C. 836 imposes criminal penalties on a person who knowingly transports fireworks 'in a manner or for a use prohibited by the laws of such State specifically prohibiting or regulating the use of fireworks.' This provision also indicates that the definitions of fireworks contained in the laws of the respective states shall be applied. It is thus apparent that the federal regulations contemplate that states are not preempted from regulating the intrastate sale and use of fireworks.

Stajos v. City of Lansing, 221 Mich.App. at 235, 561 N.W.2d at 122 (upholding a Michigan statute prohibiting the sale or use of certain fireworks without a permit.)

[T]here is no reason to suppose that Congress intended to preempt the states from legislating in this area [fireworks]. On the contrary, 18 U.S.C. Sec. 836 indicates an intent to encourage state legislation regulating fireworks. The requirement that congressional intent to displace local laws must be clearly manifested is obviously not satisfied in this case.

Cohen v. Bredehoeft, 290 F. Supp. at 1004 (holding that a municipal ordinance prohibiting the presence of any fireworks within the city was not in conflict with or preempted by federal statutes and regulations, including the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, or 18 U.S.C. §836.) See also Stoughton v. City of Fort Worth, 277 S.W.2d 150 (upholding a permanent injunction based upon a local ordinance prohibiting all manner of fireworks within the city limits and 5,000 feet thereof;) Parker v. City of Fort Worth,

281 S.W.2d 721 (Tex. 1955) (upholding validity of ordinance prohibiting the keeping of fireworks in the city limits and within 5,000 feet thereof;) City of Wisconsin Dells v. Dells Fireworks Inc., 197 Wis.2d 1, 539 N.W.2d 916 (affirming an injunction that prohibited the sale of fireworks without a permit issued by the local municipality pursuant to Wisconsin statute, even though the seller held a federal permit under 18 U.S.C. §§843 for explosive materials.) But see City of Fort Worth v. Atlas Enterprises, 311 S.W.2d 922 (Tex. 1958)(holding city ordinance prohibiting the transportation of fireworks through the city invalid in conflict with the laws of Texas, and as discriminatory against interstate commerce and preempted by 18 U.S.C. §835<sup>7</sup>.)

Appellants point to the Consumer Product Safety Act (C.P.S.A.), 15 U.S.C. s 2051, et seq., and the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (F.H.S.A.), 15 U.S.C. s 1261, et seq. . . .[which] deal with the labeling, transportation and other minimum safety standards which apply to those fireworks which are otherwise legally capable of being possessed under state law. Neither C.P.S.A. nor the F.H.S.A. prohibit the possession of the type of fireworks encountered here.

The F.H.S.A. was enacted to proscribe interstate commerce in certain ultrahazardous substances and to ensure that other hazardous substances not totally banned were properly labeled, describing the substance and the possible hazard to be expected therefrom. 15 U.S.C. s 1263. In dealing with common fireworks, it is clear that Congress did not totally ban interstate dealings in such items, but rather required that they be properly labeled. 15 U.S.C. s 1261(q)(1)(ii). The legislative history of the F.H.S.A. discloses Congressional intent not to restrict states from otherwise prohibiting fireworks:

Moreover, the limited preemption amendment relates only to labeling and would not preclude States or localities from prohibiting altogether an article, such as fireworks, which would not be banned under the Federal act if properly labeled.

## U.S. v. Marcyes, 557 F.2d 1361, 1365 (9th Cir. 1977).

Based on the discussion above, the requirements for federal preemption do not appear to be met. The federal laws at issue specifically address the issue of preemption and indicate that the Nebraska fireworks statutes are not preempted. In addition, based on the case authorities from around the United States, we do not believe that Congress has explicitly preempted state regulation of fireworks. There is no discernable conflict between federal and state law, and it is not impossible to comply with both federal and Nebraska law in the area of fireworks. We also do not believe that federal law so thoroughly occupies the field of fireworks regulation that there is no room for state regulation, or that the state law at issue here is an obstacle to federal regulation. Thus, we do not believe the Nebraska Fireworks statutes are preempted by federal law.

For the reasons set out above, it is our opinion that the Nebraska fireworks statutes, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1239.01, 28-1241 through 28-1250 and 28-1252, are not preempted by federal law.

- <sup>4</sup> Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1245(3) states: "Section 28-1244 [unlawful acts includes bringing into the state any fireworks other than permissible fireworks] shall not apply to: any fireworks brought into this state for storage by a licensed distributor and held for sale outside of this state."
- <sup>5</sup> Similar language is still found in the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, as recodified in 49 U.S.C. §\$5101 through 5128, specifically in 49 U.S.C. § 5125 (2008)
- <sup>6</sup> Which are never fully identified by the Court, but which do include 18 U.S.C. §836

Sincerely,
JON BRUNING
Attorney General
(Signed) Natalee J. Hart
Assistant Attorney General

#### REPORTS

The following reports were received by the Legislature:

# Agriculture, Department of

Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act Fiscal Report for 2007/2008

## Arts Council, Nebraska

Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund Report

# Attorney General, Nebraska

2007 Annual Report, Leadership in Action

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pub.L. 86-613, § 18, formerly § 17, July 12, 1960, 74 Stat. 380, as amended Pub.L. 89-756, § 4(a), Nov. 3, 1966, 80 Stat. 1305; renumbered and amended Pub.L. 91-113, § 4(a), (b)(1), Nov. 6, 1969, 83 Stat. 189, 190; Pub.L. 94-284, § 17(a), May 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 510; Pub.L. 110-314, Title II, § 204(b)(4)(J), Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3042

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  This paragraph of the act allows hazardous substances to include "any substances which the Commission by regulation finds. . meets the requirements" elsewhere in subsection (f)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Now codified as 49 U.S.C. §§5101 through 5128

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 18 U.S.C.§835 was repealed in 1979

### **Auditor of Public Accounts**

Retirement Systems, Public Employees Retirement Systems - State and County Employees Retirement Plans, Audit Report

Revenue, Department of, Cigarette Tax Receipts, Attestation Report

Revenue, Department of, Motor Fuel Tax Enforcement and Collections Division, Attestation Report

# Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization for 2009-2011 Biennium

Postsecondary Education Operating Budget Recommendations for 2009-2011 Biennium

## Criminal Justice, Commission on Law Enforcement and

Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparation Program, Twenty-First Report, July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

# Fiscal Office, Legislative

Certification of General Fund net receipts for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008. Monthly receipt estimates derived from the annual net receipt estimate of the Economic Forecasting Advisory Board produced February 22, 2008

# **Economic Development, Department of**

Proposed 2007 Annual Performance Report

Proposed 2009 Annual Action Plan

## Fire Marshal, State

Annual Volunteer Numbers Report

## **Game and Parks Commission**

Game Law Investigation Cash Fund Annual Report

# **GIS Steering Committee**

Building a Spatial Data Infrastructure for Nebraska Annual Report

# Health and Human Services

Beatrice State Developmental Center Discharge Report (LB959)

Child Welfare Services 2007 Annual Report

Developmental Disabilities, Division of, Beatrice State Developmental Center, Quarterly Report

Women's Health Initiative Annual Report

# **Insurance, Department of**

2007 Annual Report of the Interstate Insurance Receivership Commission

#### **Investment Council**

Sustainability of Healthcare Transfer Report

Sustainability of Healthcare Transfer Report, Revised Report

# **Investment Finance Authority, Nebraska (NIFA)**

2006 Series A, B, C, D, E and F Community Development Loan Notes (City of Lincoln Program-2006) Report

2008 Series CDE Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Notice

2008 Series FGH Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Notice

2008B Clean Water State Revolving Fund Revenue Bonds Notice

Agricultural Loans Report, Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Revenue Bonds Notice

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Revenue Bonds Notice

Single Family Housing Bonds and General Obligation Bonds

Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2007 IJK Quarterly Report

Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2008 AB Quarterly Report Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2008 CDE Quarterly Report

# Labor, Department of

PY 2007 Annual Report, Workforce Investment Act

**Legislative Fiscal Office (See Fiscal Office, Legislative)** 

Legislative Performance Audit (See Performance Audit, Legislative)

# Natural Resources, Department of

2008 Biennial Report on the Nebraska Resources Development Fund Annual Report and Plan of Work for the Nebraska State Water Planning and Review Process

# Performance Audit, Legislative

FY 2007-2008 Annual Report

Personal Services Contracts: An Examination of Compliance and Oversight

### Parole, Board of

Annual Report

## **Power Review Board**

Fifteenth Biennial Report

# Propane Education and Research Safety Council, Nebraska

Independent Auditors' Report Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

### **Public Service Commission**

2008 Annual Report on Telecommunications

# Retirement Systems, Public Employees

2008 Annual Report to the Legislative Retirement Committee

County Employees' Retirement System Cash Balance Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Results as of January 1, 2008 for County Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010

County Equal Retirement Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Results as of January 1, 2008 for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009

Retirement Plan Review

State Employees' Retirement System Cash Balance Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Results as of January 1, 2008 for State Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010

State Equal Retirement Benefit Fund Actuarial Valuation Results as of January 1, 2008 for State Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009

# Revenue, Nebraska Department of

2007 Nebraska Tax Incentives Annual Report to the Nebraska Legislature 2008 Tax Expenditure Report and Summary

Certification of General Fund net receipts for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008. Monthly receipt estimates derived from the annual net receipt estimate of the Economic Forecasting Advisory Board produced February 22, 2008

Nebraska Lottery 2008 Annual Report

# Roads, Nebraska Department of

Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards Minutes for April, May, and July 2008

State Highway Commission Quarterly Reports

Thirty-Eighth Annual Report of the Board of Examiners for County

Highway and City Street Superintendents for the Period January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007

Traffic Crash Facts Annual Report

## State Fair, Nebraska

Expenditures from State Fair Funds Account, July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008 University of Nebraska

Progress Report on Increasing Women and Minority Faculty

### COMMUNICATIONS

Received communication from the Nebraska Supreme Court regarding the August 12, 2008, meeting of the Judicial Resources Commission.

Received communication from the Nebraska Supreme Court regarding the October 16, 2008, meeting of the Judicial Resources Commission.

Received a copy of House Resolution 1325 from the state of Illinois relating to the observance of Memorial Day and the Illinois House of Representatives' continued tradition of honoring our fallen brethren by reading an annual list of all of the names of those American soldiers, sailors, airman, and marines from the State of Illinois that have given the ultimate sacrifice in the preceding year.

### BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills were read for the first time by title:

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Introduced by Speaker Flood, 19; at the request of the Governor.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to juveniles; to amend section 29-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to prohibition of prosecution for leaving a child at a hospital and duties for the hospital; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

# **LEGISLATIVE BILL 2.** Introduced by Engel, 17.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds for the expenses incurred during the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session, 2008; and to declare an emergency.

# LEGISLATIVE BILL 3. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to children; to adopt the Nebraska Infant Safe Haven Act; to adopt the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act; to provide a termination date; to eliminate provisions relating to leaving a child with an employee on duty at a hospital; to outright repeal section 29-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.

### **EASE**

The Legislature was at ease from 3:25 p.m. until 3:33 p.m.

### REFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Legislative Council Executive Board submits the following report:

LB/LR	Committee
LB1	Judiciary
LB2	General File
LB3	Judiciary

Batt, Robert - Nebraska Liquor Control Commission - General Affairs Berggren, Eric - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services

Bizzell, Dan - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services

Borgmann, Charles - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board - Transportation and Telecommunications

Brodersen, Charles "Tod" - Nebraska Ethanol Board - Natural Resources Brown, Amber - State Personnel Board - Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Brueggemann, William - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee - Judiciary Carlson, DeMarus - Board of Educational Lands and Funds - Education

Cole-Mossman, Jennie - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board - Health and Human Services

Cotton, Rosalyn - Nebraska Board of Parole - Judiciary

Evans, Theodore, Jr. - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services

Ford, Scot - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee - Judiciary

Harmon, Donald - Board of Emergency Medical Services - Health and Human Services

Henning, Judith - Board of Emergency Medical Services - Health and Human Services

Hoffman, Timothy - Board of Emergency Medical Services - Health and Human Services

Hosford, Paul - Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission - Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Kester, Kenneth - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services

Kuzma, Joni - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board - Health and Human Services

Lang, Catherine D. - Commissioner of Labor, Department of Labor - Business and Labor

Mercer, Richard - Nebraska Natural Resources Commission - Natural Resources

Moseman, Neil - Director, Nebraska Energy Office - Natural Resources

Noah, Darlene - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board - Transportation and Telecommunications

Reagan, Sammy - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board - Transportation and Telecommunications

Salansky, Paul - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services Starman, Darlene - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission - Education

Stuart, James, Jr. - Nebraska Environmental Trust Board - Natural Resources

Surber, George Tom - Board of Emergency Medical Services - Health and Human Services

Tennity, John - State Board of Health - Health and Human Services

Vandeberg, Rodney - Nebraska Highway Commission - Transportation and Telecommunications

Vaughn, Derek - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee - Judiciary

(Signed) L. Patrick Engel, Chairperson Legislative Council, Executive Board

### ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION

# Opinion 08008

DATE: November 14, 2008

SUBJECT: Whether certain proposed legislation is within the scope

of the Governor's call for a special session of the

Legislature relating to child abandonment

REQUESTED BY: Nebraska State Senator Rich Pahls

WRITTEN BY: Jon Bruning, Attorney General

Charles E. Lowe, Assistant Attorney General

## Introduction

In a letter dated November 5, 2008, you have asked this office for its opinion as to whether a proposed legislative bill you intend to offer at the Legislature's special session beginning on November 14, 2008, is "constitutional under the restrictions of the Governor's Proclamation" calling the Legislature into session.

The proclamation you refer to was issued by Governor Dave Heineman on October 29, 2008. It calls the Legislature into special session "for the purpose of considering and enacting legislation on only" two subjects. These subjects are:

- 1. Enacting legislation to limit the application of 2008 Neb. Laws LB 157, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121, by reducing the maximum age of children to whom the statute applies; and
- 2. To appropriate funds to the Legislative Council for the necessary expenses of the extraordinary session herein called.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121, the statute specifically addressed in the Governor's proclamation, reads as follows:

No person shall be prosecuted for any crime based solely upon the act of leaving a child in the custody of an employee on duty at a hospital licensed by the State of Nebraska. The hospital shall promptly contact appropriate authorities to take custody of the child.

Your proposed bill contains twelve sections. The proposed bill places a thirty day limit on the age of a child who can be left at a licensed hospital without threat of criminal prosecution, but it also contains numerous other provisions dealing generally with the rights, responsibilities and duties of the parent, the hospital and the Department of Health and Human Services in legal child abandonment situations. Section 11 of your proposed bill would repeal § 29-121 outright. If enacted, the bill would be known as the Nebraska Safe Haven Act.

The issue for decision is whether enactment of your proposed bill establishing the Nebraska Safe Haven Act would fall outside the scope of the Governor's call of the Legislature into special session which appears to limit the session to the consideration and enactment of legislation to amend § 29-121 to place an age limit on children to whom that statute applies.

# Applicable Law

The special session of the Legislature has been called by the Governor using the authority vested in him by Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8. That constitutional provision states:

The Governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature by proclamation, stating therein the purpose for which they are convened, and the Legislature shall enter upon no business except that for which they were called together.

In Arrow Club, Inc. v. Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, 177 Neb. 686, 689-90, 131 N.W.2d 134, 137 (1964), the Nebraska Supreme Court stated the basic legal principles applicable under art. IV, § 8.

It is well established that the legislature while in special session can transact no business except that for which it was called together. . . . The proclamation may state the purpose for which the Legislature is convened in broad, general terms or it may limit the consideration to a specified phase of a general subject. The Legislature is free to determine in what manner the purpose shall be accomplished, but it must confine itself to the matters submitted to it by the proclamation. . . .

The guiding principle in sustaining legislation of a special session is that it be germane to, or within, the apparent scope of the subjects which have

been designated as proper fields of legislation. . . .

The Legislature while in special session may enact legislation relating to, germane to, and having a natural connection with the purpose for which it was convened. . . . The purpose or subject as stated in the proclamation is to be determined by an analysis and construction of the proclamation as in the case of any written instrument. . . . The presumption is always in favor of the constitutionality of legislation, and an act should be held to be within the call if it can be done by any reasonable construction.

Applying the foregoing principles, in Arrow Club the supreme court found that legislation relating to the regulation and operation of bottle clubs was outside the scope of a special session proclamation calling for consideration of amendments to the Liquor Control Act relating to the licensing of nonprofit corporations, even though both bottle clubs and nonprofit corporation liquor licenses fell within the ambit of that act.

In Jaksha v. State, 222 Neb. 690, 696, 385 N.W.2d 922, 926 (1986), the supreme court quoted favorably from Stickler v. Higgins, 269 Ky. 260, 265, 106 S.W.2d 1008, 1011 (1937), to the effect that a Kentucky constitutional provision very similar to Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8 confers upon the Governor "the power and authority to limit . . . the subjects that the Legislature might consider at [an] extraordinarily called session." The Jaksha court then went on to state:

We conclude that Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8, as part of the power of the executive branch of government, permits the Governor to determine when an extraordinary occasion exists, necessitating convention of a special session the Nebraska Legislature. The subject matter restriction envisioned in Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8, empowers the Governor to set the boundaries of legislative action permissible at a special session of the Nebraska Legislature.

# 222 Neb. at 698, 385 N.W.2d at 927.

It is important to note in this regard that, while the supreme court has stated that during a special session the Legislature may enact legislation "relating to, germane to, and having a natural connection with the purpose for which it was convened," Arrow Club, 177 Neb. at 690, 131 N.W.2d at 137, the court, in fact, has "adopted a narrow view of germaneness, limiting it to 'a specified phase of a general subject." Op. Att'y Gen. No. 01034 (Oct. 31, 2001) (quoting Arrow Club, 177 Neb. at 689, 131 N.W.2d at 137). As stated in Opinion No. 01034: "In light of the Arrow Club decision, it appears the Nebraska Supreme Court would take a restrictive view of what legislation is considered germane to a Governor's special session call."

As he is empowered to do, the Governor has issued a proclamation calling the Legislature into special session and set narrow boundaries on legislative action which may be taken during that session. Reading and construing the first subparagraph of the proclamation in the same manner as any other written instrument, it appears clear that the Governor has limited the special session to legislating on "a specified phase of a general subject." Arrow Club, 177 Neb, at 689, 131 N.W.2d at 137.

A review of § 29-121, to which the proclamation specifically refers, shows that the general subject of that statute is (1) the exemption of persons who leave children with employees of licensed hospitals from criminal prosecution based solely upon that act and (2) the duty of hospitals to promptly notify appropriate authorities to take custody of children left with them. The Governor's proclamation, however, limits the Legislature to considering legislation which would deal with only a specified phase of this general subject – namely, the parameters of the exemption from criminal prosecution for a person leaving a child at a licensed hospital with regard to placing an upper limit on the age of a child who is abandoned in this way. Put another way, the Governor has called the Legislature for the narrow purpose of considering legislation limiting the exemption from prosecution by placing an age limit on a child who may be left at a hospital. He has not summoned the Legislature to consider and legislate with regard to other legal, medical or administrative ramifications that might flow from the relinquishment of a child at a licensed hospital or from the exemption from criminal prosecution itself.

Section 4 of your proposed bill would limit the age of a child who may be relinquished without threat of prosecution to thirty days; and such proposed limitation falls readily within the scope of the Governor's call. Bearing in mind, however, the very limited nature of the call, it appears that all the remaining provisions of the proposed bill exceed it.

Generally speaking, the proposed bill contains a definition and terminology not found in § 29-121, sets out some of the civil legal ramifications of leaving a child at a hospital, and places a number of duties and responsibilities in connection with abandonment of children at hospitals on the hospitals and the Department of Health and Human Services. None of these proposals is encompassed within the Governor's call, which is limited to consideration of a limitation on the exemption from criminal prosecution set forth in § 29-121. For example, sections 7, 8 and 9 of the proposed bill would require the department to "develop and implement a public information program to inform the general public of the procedures of and alternatives to the Nebraska Safe Haven Act," to develop several other methods and programs relating generally to the proposed act and to prepare and submit an annual report to the Legislature including specified data about the implementation and operation of the proposed act. Similarly, sections 3, 5 and 6 and the last sentence of section 4 of the proposed bill place duties and responsibilities on hospital personnel and the department to be carried out when a child is relinquished to a hospital under the act. It is apparent

these provisions, while related to the general subject of legal child abandonments, do not deal with and are not germane to the phase of that subject specified in the Governor's call – i.e., limiting the exemption from criminal prosecution found in § 29-121 by considering a reduction in the maximum age of children covered by that statute.

It seems to us that the present situation is analogous to the situation described in Arrow Club in which the supreme court found that a Governor's call for a special legislative session to consider amendments to the Liquor Control Act relating to the licensing of nonprofit corporations did not encompass legislation relating to the regulation and operation of bottle clubs, even though both bottle clubs and nonprofit corporation liquor licenses fell within the ambit of that act. While your proposed bill's provisions do have a nexus with the general subject of the legal abandonment of children in Nebraska (just as the bottle club legislation in Arrow Club had a nexus with the general subject of the regulation of liquor), they do not have direct connection with the narrow subject of the Governor's call – limiting the exemption from criminal prosecution for abandoning a child by lowering the maximum age of covered children – (just as the bottle club legislation in Arrow Club did not have a sufficient direct connection to the narrow subject of the liquor licensing of nonprofit corporations). Accordingly, it is our view that, as it did in Arrow Club, the Nebraska Supreme Court would likely conclude that the proposed Nebraska Safe Haven Act, if enacted during the special session, is in violation of the Nebraska Constitution and void.

#### Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, it is our opinion that, with the exception of the setting of a maximum age of thirty days for a child who could be relinquished to a licensed hospital without criminal prosecution for that act alone, your proposed bill, if enacted and then challenged in court, would likely be deemed to be outside the scope of the Governor's call for the special session.

Sincerely yours,
JON BRUNING
Attorney General
(Signed) Charles E. Lowe
Assistant Attorney General

pc: Patrick J. O'Donnell, Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature 17-034-20

### RESOLUTIONS

### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 1.** Introduced by Stuthman, 22.

WHEREAS, the Lindsay Holy Family School Boys' Cross Country Team won their first Class D State Cross Country Championship; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Lindsay Holy Family School cross country team consisted of Kevin Weeder, Kyle Wegener, Robert Plugge, Kelan Schumacher, Jerret Sueper, and Shawn Korth; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Weeder won first place in the individual competition with a time of 17:21.0; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the 2008 Lindsay Holy Family School Boys' Cross Country Team be congratulated for their exemplary effort this season.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Coach Nathan Vitosh and the Lindsay Holy Family School Boys' Cross Country Team.

Laid over.

# LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 2. Introduced by Heidemann, 1.

WHEREAS, Thomas Wilson Hall of Troop #334, Palmyra, Nebraska, has completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America: and

WHEREAS, to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest advancement of rank in scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific skills are required to advance through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. Throughout his scouting experience, Thomas has learned, been tested on, and been recognized for various scouting skills; and

WHEREAS, to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, a Boy Scout is required to earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are in required areas, and complete an approved community service project which consisted of building shelves inside the fire department; and

WHEREAS, only a small percentage of the boys who join the Boy Scouts of America achieve the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Wilson Hall has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout through his hard work and perseverance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BÉ IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

1. That the Legislature congratulates Thomas Wilson Hall on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Thomas Hall.

Laid over.

# **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 3.** Introduced by Heidemann, 1.

WHEREAS, Matthew Willaert Wallen of Troop #334, Palmyra, Nebraska, has completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest advancement of rank in scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific skills are required to advance through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. Throughout his scouting experience, Matthew has learned, been tested on, and been recognized for various scouting skills; and

WHEREAS, to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, a Boy Scout is required to earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are in required areas, and complete an approved community service project which consisted of replacing the cement in the picnic shelter and adding a sidewalk with a handicap accessible ramp at Taggart Park; and

WHEREAS, only a small percentage of the boys who join the Boy Scouts of America achieve the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Willaert Wallen has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout through his hard work and perseverance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Matthew Willaert Wallen on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.
  - 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Matthew Wallen.

Laid over.

### NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Business and Labor

Room 2102

Monday, November 17, 2008 10:30 a.m.

Lang, Catherine D. - Department of Labor

(Signed) Abbie Cornett, Chairperson

Education

Room 1524

Monday, November 17, 2008 10:30 a.m.

Starman, Darlene - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Room 1525

Tuesday, November 18, 2008 8:30 a.m.

Carlson, DeMarus - Board of Educational Lands and Funds

(Signed) Ron Raikes, Chairperson

General Affairs

Room 1510

Monday, November 17, 2008 10:30 a.m.

Batt, Robert - Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

(Signed) Vickie McDonald, Chairperson

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Room 2102

Monday, November 17, 2008 2:30 p.m.

Hosford, Paul - Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Brown, Amber - State Personnel Board

(Signed) Kent Rogert, Vice Chairperson

Health and Human Services

Room 1510

Monday, November 17, 2008 1:30 p.m.

Berggren, Eric - State Board of Health Bizzell, Dan - State Board of Health Evans, Theodore, Jr. - State Board of Health Kester, Kenneth - State Board of Health Salansky, Paul - State Board of Health Tennity, John - State Board of Health Harmon, Donald - Board of Emergency Medical Services Henning, Judith - Board of Emergency Medical Services Hoffman, Timothy - Board of Emergency Medical Services Surber, George Tom - Board of Emergency Medical Services Cole-Mossman, Jennie - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board Kuzma, Joni - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board

(Signed) Joel Johnson, Chairperson

Judiciary

Room 1113

Tuesday, November 18, 2008 12:00 p.m.

Cotton, Rosalyn - Nebraska Board of Parole Ford, Scot - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee Brueggemann, William - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee Vaughn, Derek - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee

(Signed) Brad Ashford, Chairperson

Natural Resources

Room 1113

Monday, November 17, 2008 12:00 p.m.

Stuart, James, Jr. - Nebraska Environmental Trust Board Brodersen, Charles Tod - Nebraska Ethanol Board Mercer, Richard - Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Moseman, Neil - Nebraska Energy Office

(Signed) LeRoy Louden, Chairperson

Transportation and Telecommunications

Room 1113

Monday, November 17, 2008 10:00 a.m.

Vandeberg, Rodney - Nebraska Highway Commission Noah, Darlene - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board Borgmann, Charles - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board Reagan, Sammy - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board

(Signed) Deb Fischer, Chairperson

# **VISITORS**

Visitors to the Chamber were students from Madison High School, Madison.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 3:37 p.m., on a motion by Senator Lathrop, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Saturday, November 15, 2008.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## **SECOND DAY - NOVEMBER 15, 2008**

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

# ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## SECOND DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Saturday, November 15, 2008

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Janssen.

## ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., President Sheehy presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Aguilar, Christensen, Dierks, Friend, Hudkins, Pedersen, Preister, and Raikes who were excused.

#### CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the first day was approved.

# NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING

Judiciary

Room 1525

Monday, November 17, 2008 1:30 p.m.

LB1

LB3

(Signed) Brad Ashford, Chairperson

## **AMENDMENT - Print in Journal**

Senator Avery filed the following amendment to <u>LB1</u>: AM1

- 1 1. On page 2, line 4, strike "seventy-two hours old" and
- 2 insert "one year of age".

## EASE

The Legislature was at ease from 9:07 a.m. until 9:15 a.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 a.m., on a motion by Senator Nantkes, the Legislature adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 17, 2008.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## THIRD DAY - NOVEMBER 17, 2008

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## THIRD DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Monday, November 17, 2008

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Dierks.

## ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 11:00 a.m., President Sheehy presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Burling, Hudkins, Raikes, and Synowiecki who were excused.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the second day was approved.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION

## Opinion 08009

DATE: November 16, 2008

SUBJECT: Whether LB 3 is within the scope of the Governor's

call for a special session of the Legislature relating to

child abandonment.

REQUESTED BY: Senator Michael J. Flood

Speaker of the Legislature Nebraska State Legislature

WRITTEN BY: Jon Bruning, Attorney General

Dale A. Comer, Assistant Attorney General

The One-Hundredth Nebraska Legislature began its First Special Session on November 14, 2008. That special session was convened pursuant to a

Proclamation issued by the Governor on October 29, 2008, under authority of art. IV, § 8 of the Nebraska Constitution. The Governor's Proclamation called the Legislature into special session "for the purpose of considering and enacting legislation on only" two subjects. Those subjects are:

- 1. Enacting legislation to limit the application of 2008 Neb. Laws LB 157, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121, by reducing the maximum age of children to whom the statute applies; and
- 2. To appropriate funds to the Legislative Council for the necessary expenses of the extraordinary session herein called.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121, the statute specifically addressed in the Governor's proclamation, reads as follows:

No person shall be prosecuted for any crime based solely upon the act of leaving a child in the custody of an employee on duty at a hospital licensed by the State of Nebraska. The hospital shall promptly contact appropriate authorities to take custody of the child.

Your opinion request, which we received late in the afternoon on November 14, pertains to LB 3 from the First Special Session. You wish to know whether, in our view, LB 3 "is within the scope of the Governor's call for a special session of the Legislature to enact legislation that limits the application of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121?" For the reasons discussed below, we believe that it is not.

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 3

LB 3 is eight pages long and contains 18 separate sections. Sections 1 through 9 constitute the Nebraska Infant Safe Haven Act which pertains to newborn infants one year of age or younger. Sections 10 through 15 constitute the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act which pertains to children older than one year of age and under sixteen years of age.

Section 4 of the Nebraska Infant Safe Haven Act provides that "[p]lacement of a newborn infant one year of age or younger with a designated facility [hospital] shall not constitute grounds for a finding of abuse or neglect or a violation of any criminal statute for child abuse, neglect, or abandonment." The other sections of that Act contain provisions which deal with a number of additional matters including: a) the responsibilities of the Department of Health and Human Services when children are placed with designated facilities; b) the responsibilities of designated facilities; c) the responsibilities of parents; d) confidentiality of information; e) termination of parental rights; f) notice to putative fathers of infants placed with designated facilities; and g) promulgation of rules and regulations.

Section 12 of the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act provides that "[a] resident of the State of Nebraska who is the parent or guardian of any child who is older than one year of age and under sixteen years of age as provided in section 28-705 may seek assistance at any designated facility for such child under the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act." The other sections of that Act also contain provisions which deal with a number of additional matters including duties of behavioral health regions, duties of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the creation of safe haven intervention teams on a regional and statewide basis.

LB 3 repeals § 29-121 outright.

# APPLICABLE LAW

This is the second opinion request which we have received regarding legislation proposed for the First Special Session and the scope of the Governor's call. In our Op. Att'y Gen. No. 08008 (November 14, 2008), we indicated that legislation proposed by Senator Pahls was likely outside the scope of the Governor's call for the special session. In an effort to expedite the preparation of this response, we will quote extensively from our Opinion No. 08008, since it pertains directly to the issues which you have presented concerning LB 3.

The special session of the Legislature has been called by the Governor using the authority vested in him by Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8. That constitutional provision states:

The Governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature by proclamation, stating therein the purpose for which they are convened, and the Legislature shall enter upon no business except that for which they were called together.

In Arrow Club, Inc. v. Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, 177 Neb. 686, 689-90, 131 N.W.2d 134, 137 (1964), the Nebraska Supreme Court stated the basic legal principles applicable under art. IV, § 8.

It is well established that the legislature while in special session can transact no business except that for which it was called together. . . . The proclamation may state the purpose for which the Legislature is convened in broad, general terms or it may limit the consideration to a specified phase of a general subject. The Legislature is free to determine in what manner the purpose shall be accomplished, but it must confine itself to the matters submitted to it by the proclamation. . . .

The guiding principle in sustaining legislation of a special session is that it be germane to, or within, the apparent scope of the subjects which have been designated as proper fields of legislation.

. . .

The Legislature while in special session may enact legislation relating to, germane to, and having a natural connection with the purpose for which it was convened. . . . The purpose or subject as stated in the proclamation is to be determined by an analysis and construction of the proclamation as in the case of any written instrument. . . . The presumption is always in favor of the constitutionality of legislation, and an act should be held to be within the call if it can be done by any reasonable construction.

Applying the foregoing principles, in Arrow Club the supreme court found that legislation relating to the regulation and operation of bottle clubs was outside the scope of a special session proclamation calling for consideration of amendments to the Liquor Control Act relating to the licensing of nonprofit corporations, even though both bottle clubs and nonprofit corporation liquor licenses fell within the ambit of that act.

In Jaksha v. State, 222 Neb. 690, 696, 385 N.W.2d 922, 926 (1986), the supreme court quoted favorably from Stickler v. Higgins, 269 Ky. 260, 265, 106 S.W.2d 1008, 1011 (1937), to the effect that a Kentucky constitutional provision very similar to Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8 confers upon the Governor "the power and authority to limit . . . the subjects that the Legislature might consider at [an] extraordinarily called session." The Jaksha court then went on to state:

We conclude that Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8, as part of the power of the executive branch of government, permits the Governor to determine when an extraordinary occasion exists, necessitating convention of a special session the Nebraska Legislature. The subject matter restriction envisioned in Neb. Const. art. IV, § 8, empowers the Governor to set the boundaries of legislative action permissible at a special session of the Nebraska Legislature.

222 Neb. at 698, 385 N.W.2d at 927.

Op. Att'y Gen. No. 08008 at 2-4 (November 14, 2008).

## **ANALYSIS**

Once again, we will quote from our Opinion No. 08008 in offering an analysis of the issues pertaining to LB 3.

As he is empowered to do, the Governor has issued a proclamation calling the Legislature into special session and set narrow boundaries on legislative action which may be taken during that session. Reading and construing the first subparagraph of the proclamation in the same manner as any other written instrument, it appears clear that the Governor has limited the special session to legislating on "a specified

phase of a general subject." Arrow Club, 177 Neb. at 689, 131 N.W.2d at 137.

A review of § 29-121, to which the proclamation specifically refers, shows that the general subject of that statute is (1) the exemption of persons who leave children with employees of licensed hospitals from criminal prosecution based solely upon that act and (2) the duty of hospitals to promptly notify appropriate authorities to take custody of children left with them. The Governor's proclamation, however, limits the Legislature to considering legislation which would deal with only a specified phase of this general subject – namely, the parameters of the exemption from criminal prosecution for a person leaving a child at a licensed hospital with regard to placing an upper limit on the age of a child who is abandoned in this way. Put another way, the Governor has called the Legislature for the narrow purpose of considering legislation limiting the exemption from prosecution by placing an age limit on a child who may be left at a hospital. He has not summoned the Legislature to consider and legislate with regard to other legal, medical or administrative ramifications that might flow from the relinquishment of a child at a licensed hospital or from the exemption from criminal prosecution itself.

Section 4 of your proposed bill would limit the age of a child who may be relinquished without threat of prosecution to thirty days; and such proposed limitation falls readily within the scope of the Governor's call. Bearing in mind, however, the very limited nature of the call, it appears that all the remaining provisions of the proposed bill exceed it.

Generally speaking, the proposed bill contains a definition and terminology not found in § 29-121, sets out some of the civil legal ramifications of leaving a child at a hospital, and places a number of duties and responsibilities in connection with abandonment of children at hospitals on the hospitals and the Department of Health and Human Services. None of these proposals is encompassed within the Governor's call, which is limited to consideration of a limitation on the exemption from criminal prosecution set forth in § 29-121.

\* \* \*

It seems to us that the present situation is analogous to the situation described in Arrow Club in which the supreme court found that a Governor's call for a special legislative session to consider amendments to the Liquor Control Act relating to the licensing of nonprofit corporations did not encompass legislation relating to the regulation and operation of bottle clubs, even though both bottle clubs and nonprofit corporation liquor licenses fell within the ambit of that act. While your proposed bill's provisions do have a nexus with the general subject of the legal abandonment of children in Nebraska (just as the

bottle club legislation in Arrow Club had a nexus with the general subject of the regulation of liquor), they do not have direct connection with the narrow subject of the Governor's call – limiting the exemption from criminal prosecution for abandoning a child by lowering the maximum age of covered children – (just as the bottle club legislation in Arrow Club did not have a sufficient direct connection to the narrow subject of the liquor licensing of nonprofit corporations). Accordingly, it is our view that, as it did in Arrow Club, the Nebraska Supreme Court would likely conclude that the proposed Nebraska Safe Haven Act, if enacted during the special session, is in violation of the Nebraska Constitution and void.

Op. Att'y Gen. No. 08008 at 4-5 (November 14, 2008).

LB 3 is quite similar to the legislation which was at issue in our Opinion No. 08008 in many respects. Indeed, portions of LB 3 contain language which is almost identical to Sen. Pahls' proposals. For example, Section 4 of LB 3 is much the same as Section 4 of Sen. Pahls' proposal, except that LB 3 would limit the age of a child who may be relinquished at a designated facility without threat of prosecution to one year instead of thirty days. Moreover, LB 3 contains a host of other provisions in addition to and beyond those contained in Senator Pahls' proposal which was the subject of our Opinion No. 08008. For example, LB 3 contains provisions relating to notice for putative fathers and sections creating an entirely new act, the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act.

We have carefully reviewed LB 3 in light of the applicable law discussed above. We believe that those portions of Section 4 of the bill which limit the age of a child who may be relinquished at a designated facility without threat of prosecution to one year are within the scope of the Governor's call. However, for the reasons set out in our Opinion No. 08008, we also believe that all other portions of the bill likely exceed the scope of the Governor's call and may not constitutionally be considered during the First Special Session.

This office has prepared numerous opinions over the years dealing with the scope of the Governor's call for special sessions of the Legislature, and we understand that there is language in some of those opinions which supports the notion that the Legislature cannot be restricted or dictated to by the Governor in his call. For example, in our Op. Att'y Gen. No. 01034 (October 31, 2001), we quoted the following language from the Arrow Club case:

Although the subjects should be sufficient to evoke intelligent and responsive action from the legislature, it is not necessary that they include all the methods of accomplishment. The guiding principle in sustaining legislation of a special session is that it be germane to, or within, the apparent scope of the subjects which have been designated as proper fields for legislation. In construing a call the words of any

portion thereof must be interpreted not only as commonly and universally understood, but also as applicable to the subject intended to be affected by legislation.

While the legislature must confine itself to the matters submitted, it need not follow the views of the governor or legislate in any particular way. Within the special business or designated subjects submitted, the legislature cannot be restricted or dictated to by the governor. It is a free agent, and the governor, under the guise of definition, cannot direct or control its action. The Legislature while in special session may enact legislation relating to, germane to, and having a natural connection with the purpose for which it was convened. ...

Op. Att'y Gen. No. 01034 at 3 (October 31, 2001)(Quoting Arrow Club, Inc. v. Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, 177 Neb. 686, 689-90, 131 N.W.2d 134, 137 (1964)). However, in that same opinion, we noted that the court in Arrow Club "adopted a narrow view of germaneness, limiting it to 'a specified phase of a general subject." Id. at 4 (quoting Arrow Club, 177 Neb. at 689, 131 N.W.2d at 137). We also stated that, "[i]n light of the Arrow Club decision, it appears the Nebraska Supreme Court would take a restrictive view of what legislation is considered germane to a Governor's special session call." Id. at 4.

In the present case, the Governor chose to limit the call to a "specified phase of a general subject." As we noted in Opinion No 08008, the general subject in this instance is the overall process for legal abandonment of children in Nebraska. The specified phase involves limiting the exemption from criminal prosecution for abandoning a child by lowering the maximum age of covered children. Therefore, during the First Special Session, the Legislature may lower the maximum age of covered children to whatever age it chooses, or not at all. On the other hand, the supreme court's restrictive view of what legislation is considered germane to a special session call does not allow the Legislature to consider bills which go beyond the specified phase of the Governor's call and which deal in broad terms with child abandonment, the duties of governmental and private institutions, and the duties and rights of parents. Those additional legislative issues must wait, at this point, until the Legislature is assembled in its regular session.

## CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, we believe that those portions of LB 3 which limit the age of a child who may be relinquished at a designated facility without threat of prosecution to one year are within the scope of the Governor's call. In our view, all other portions of that bill likely exceed the scope of that call, and may not be considered during the First Special Session.

Sincerely, JON BRUNING Attorney General
(Signed) Dale A. Comer
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## **AMENDMENT - Print in Journal**

Senator Langemeier filed the following amendment to <u>LB1</u>: AM2

1 On page 2, line 4, strike "seventy-two hours old" and

2 insert "thirty days of age".

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:12 a.m., on a motion by Speaker Flood, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 18, 2008.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## **FOURTH DAY - NOVEMBER 18, 2008**

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

# ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## FOURTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Tuesday, November 18, 2008

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Aguilar.

## ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., Senator Langemeier presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Cornett, Kruse, and Synowiecki who were excused until they arrive.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the third day was approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Judiciary

# **LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Placed on General File with amendment. AM5

- 1 1. On page 2, line 4, strike "seventy-two hours" and
- 2 insert "thirty days".

(Signed) Brad Ashford, Chairperson

**Business and Labor** 

The Business and Labor Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Commissioner of Labor Catherine D. Lang - Department of Labor

Aye: 6 Senators Cornett, Lathrop, McGill, Rogert, Wallman, White. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Chambers.

# (Signed) Abbie Cornett, Chairperson

## Health and Human Services

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Paul Salansky - State Board of Health Theodore Evans, Jr. - State Board of Health John Tennity - State Board of Health Eric Berggren - State Board of Health Dan Bizzell - State Board of Health Kenneth Kester - State Board of Health

Aye: 7 Senators Erdman, Gay, Hansen, Howard, Johnson, Pankonin, Stuthman. Nay: 0. Absent: 0.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Timothy Hoffman - Board of Emergency Medical Services Donald Harmon - Board of Emergency Medical Services Judith Henning - Board of Emergency Medical Services George Tom Surber - Board of Emergency Medical Services

Aye: 7 Senators Erdman, Gay, Hansen, Howard, Johnson, Pankonin, Stuthman. Nay: 0. Absent: 0.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Jennie Cole-Mossman - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board Joni Kuzma - Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board

Aye: 7 Senators Erdman, Gay, Hansen, Howard, Johnson, Pankonin, Stuthman. Nay: 0. Absent: 0.

(Signed) Joel Johnson, Chairperson

# Transportation and Telecommunications

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Darlene Noah - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board Charles Borgmann - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board Sammy Reagan - Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board

Aye: 7 Senators Aguilar, Fischer, Lautenbaugh, Louden, Pedersen, Schimek, Stuthman. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Hudkins.

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Rodney Vandeberg - Nebraska Highway Commission

Aye: 7 Senators Aguilar, Fischer, Lautenbaugh, Louden, Pedersen, Schimek, Stuthman. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Hudkins.

(Signed) Deb Fischer, Chairperson

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Paul Hosford - Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Aye: 7 Senators Adams, Aguilar, Avery, Karpisek, Lautenbaugh, Pahls, Rogert. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Friend.

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Amber Brown - State Personnel Board

Aye: 7 Senators Adams, Aguilar, Avery, Karpisek, Lautenbaugh, Pahls, Rogert. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Friend.

(Signed) Ray Aguilar, Chairperson

#### General Affairs

The General Affairs Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Robert Batt - Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

Aye: 7 Senators Dubas, Erdman, Friend, Janssen, Karpisek, McDonald, Preister. Nay: 0. Absent: 1 Senator Dierks.

(Signed) Vickie McDonald, Chairperson

## Natural Resources

The Natural Resources Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

James Stuart, Jr. - Nebraska Environmental Trust Board

Aye: 6 Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Fischer, Louden, Wallman. Nay: 0. Absent: 2 Senators Hudkins, Kopplin.

The Natural Resources Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Director Neil Moseman - Nebraska Energy Office

Aye: 6 Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Fischer, Louden, Wallman. Nay: 0. Absent: 2 Senators Hudkins, Kopplin.

The Natural Resources Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Richard Mercer - Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Aye: 6 Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Fischer, Louden, Wallman. Nay: 0. Absent: 2 Senators Hudkins, Kopplin.

The Natural Resources Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Charles Tod Brodersen - Nebraska Ethanol Board

Aye: 6 Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Fischer, Louden, Wallman. Nay: 0. Absent: 2 Senators Hudkins, Kopplin.

(Signed) LeRoy Louden, Chairperson

## GENERAL FILE

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 2.** Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 44 ayes, 0 nays, 2 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

#### **LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Title read. Considered.

Committee AM5, found in this day's Journal, was considered.

Senator Avery offered the following amendment to the committee amendment:

#### AM4

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM5)

- 1 1. On page 1, line 2, strike "thirty days" and insert
- 2 "one year".

Senator Erdman moved the previous question. The question is, "Shall the debate now close?" The motion prevailed with 31 ayes, 8 nays, and 10 not voting.

Senator Avery moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 45 ayes, 0 nays, and 4 not voting.

Senator Avery requested a roll call vote on his amendment.

Voting in the affirmative, 23:

Avery	Howard	Louden	Preister	Wallman
Carlson	Karpisek	McDonald	Raikes	White
Christensen	Kopplin	McGill	Rogert	Wightman
Dubas	Kruse	Nantkes	Schimek	C
Hansen	Lathrop	Pedersen	Synowiecki	

Voting in the negative, 26:

Adams	Dierks	Fulton	Johnson	Pirsch
Aguilar	Engel	Gay	Langemeier	Stuthman
Ashford	Erdman	Harms	Lautenbaugh	
Burling	Fischer	Heidemann	Nelson	
Chambers	Flood	Hudkins	Pahls	
Cornett	Friend	Janssen	Pankonin	

Not voting, 0.

The Avery amendment lost with 23 ayes, 26 nays, and 0 not voting.

The Chair declared the call raised.

Pending.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education

The Education Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

DeMarus Carlson - Board of Educational Lands and Funds

Aye: 6 Senators Adams, Avery, Burling, Howard, Johnson, Raikes. Nay: 0. Absent: 2 Senators Ashford, Kopplin.

The Education Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Darlene Starman - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Aye: 5 Senators Adams, Avery, Howard, Johnson, Kopplin. Nay: 0. Absent: 3 Senators Ashford, Burling, Raikes.

(Signed) Ron Raikes, Chairperson

#### RESOLUTION

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 4.** Introduced by Stuthman, 22.

WHEREAS, the Scotus Central Catholic Shamrocks won the 2008 Class C-1 State Volleyball Championship; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 title is the thirteenth state volleyball title for Scotus Central Catholic; and

WHEREAS, the Shamrocks defeated the Grand Island Central Catholic Crusaders 25-23, 25-21, 25-21 to win the state title; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Scotus Central Catholic on their 2008 Class C-1 State Volleyball Championship.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Shamrocks and their coach, John Petersen.

Laid over.

#### VISITORS

Visitors to the Chamber were David Mrsny from Omaha; 24 twelfth-grade students, teacher, and sponsor from Elkhorn; 26 tenth- through twelfth-grade students and teachers from Nebraska City; Frank Dartsch and Dan Gilbert from Omaha; and members of Youth Leadership Tomorrow from Grand Island.

## RECESS

At 11:55 a.m., on a motion by Senator Avery, the Legislature recessed until 1:30 p.m.

## AFTER RECESS

The Legislature reconvened at 1:30 p.m., Senator Langemeier presiding.

#### ROLL CALL

The roll was called and all members were present.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Enrollment and Review

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 2.** Placed on Select File.

(Signed) Amanda McGill, Chairperson

## GENERAL FILE

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Senator Hansen offered the following amendment to the committee amendment:

AM<sub>6</sub>

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM5)

- 1. On page 1, line 2, strike "thirty days" and insert
- 2 "four months".

Senator Hansen asked unanimous consent to withdraw his amendment, AM6, found in this day's Journal, and replace it with his substitute amendment, FA2, to the committee amendment. No objections. So ordered. FA2

Amendments to Committee amendments

1. On page 1, line 2, strike "thirty days" and insert "one hundred twenty days".

## SPEAKER FLOOD PRESIDING

Pending.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Judiciary

The Judiciary Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Scot Ford - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee William Brueggemann - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee Derek Vaughn - Crime Victim's Reparations Committee

Aye: 8 Senators Ashford, Schimek, Pedersen, McDonald, McGill, Pirsch, Chambers, Lathrop. Nay: 0. Absent: 0.

The Judiciary Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Rosalyn Cotton - Nebraska Board of Parole

Aye: 8 Senators Ashford, Schimek, Pedersen, McDonald, McGill, Pirsch, Chambers, Lathrop. Nay: 0. Absent: 0.

(Signed) Brad Ashford, Chairperson

## RESOLUTIONS

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 5.** Introduced by Harms, 48; Erdman, 47; Louden, 49.

WHEREAS, the Scottsbluff Bearcats won the 2008 Class B Girls State Cross Country Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Bearcats' win clinched the third girls state cross country championship for Scottsbluff; and

WHEREAS, the Bearcats finished the meet with their top four runners in the top 20 and 25 points ahead of runner-up Columbus; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Scottsbluff in winning the 2008 Class B Girls State Cross Country Championship.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Scottsbluff Bearcats and their coach, Tanya Vaughn.

Laid over.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 6.** Introduced by Harms, 48; Erdman, 47; Louden, 49.

WHEREAS, the Scottsbluff girls golf team won the 2008 Class B Girls State Golf Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Bearcats beat runner-up Beatrice by thirty-three strokes on the way to winning their third state title in the last six years; and

WHEREAS, the Bearcats' win capped off the first perfect season in school history; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic accomplishments of the youth of this state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature recognizes and congratulates the members of the Scottsbluff girls golf team and their coach, Mike Klein.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Scottsbluff girls golf team and their coach, Mike Klein.

Laid over.

## **GENERAL FILE**

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** The Hansen amendment, FA2, found in this day's Journal, to the committee amendment, was renewed.

#### SENATOR LANGEMEIER PRESIDING

Senator Ashford moved the previous question. The question is, "Shall the debate now close?" The motion prevailed with 28 ayes, 9 nays, and 12 not voting.

Senator Hansen moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 46 ayes, 0 nays, and 3 not voting.

Senator Hansen requested a roll call vote on his amendment.

Voting in the affirmative, 20:

Adams	Hansen	Kruse	Nantkes	Preister
Avery	Howard	Lathrop	Nelson	Rogert
Carlson	Karpisek	McDonald	Pankonin	Wallman
Christensen	Kopplin	McGill	Pedersen	White

Voting in the negative, 29:

Aguilar	Dubas	Fulton	Johnson	Raikes
Ashford	Engel	Gay	Langemeier	Schimek
Burling	Erdman	Harms	Lautenbaugh	Stuthman
Chambers	Fischer	Heidemann	Louden	Synowiecki
Cornett	Flood	Hudkins	Pahls	Wightman
Dierks	Friend	Janssen	Pirsch	

Not voting, 0.

The Hansen amendment lost with 20 ayes, 29 nays, and 0 not voting.

The Chair declared the call raised.

Senators Schimek and Pedersen offered the following amendment to the committee amendment:

#### AM9

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM5)

- 1 1. Insert the following new amendments:
- 2 "1. Insert the following section:
- 3 "Sec. 2. This act terminates on June 4, 2009.".
- 4 3. Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.".
- 5 2. Renumber the remaining amendment accordingly.

#### SENATOR ERDMAN PRESIDING

Senator Schimek withdrew the Schimek-Pedersen amendment.

Committee AM5, found in this day's Journal, was renewed.

The committee amendment was adopted with 44 ayes, 0 nays, and 5 present and not voting.

Senator Avery withdrew his amendment, AM1, found on page 41.

Senator Langemeier withdrew his amendment, AM2, found on page 50.

Senator Schimek offered the following amendment:

## AM11

- 1 1. On page 2, line 7, after the period insert "The
- 2 hospital shall not require the person leaving such child to provide
- 3 any medical history of the child or the child's family. The person
- 4 leaving such child may voluntarily provide medical history of the
- 5 child or the child's family.".

Senator Schimek withdrew her amendment.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 40 ayes, 4 nays, and 5 present and not voting.

## REPORT OF REGISTERED LOBBYISTS

Following is a list of all lobbyists who have registered as of November 17, 2008, in accordance with Section 49-1481, Revised Statutes of Nebraska. Additional lobbyists who have registered will be filed weekly.

(Signed) Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

Amack, Angela K.
Columbus Public Schools

American Communications Group, Inc. American Wind Energy Association

Angus, Mary E. ARC of Nebraska

Boesch, Elizabeth L. Nebraska Public Power District

Bydalek, Dave Family First

Campbell, Mary Lincoln Public Schools

Hamilton Consulting Life Lock, Inc.

Hickox, Scott Takeda Pharmaceuticals America

Jensen, Ronald L./Jensen Associates, Inc. Children's Respite Care Center, Inc. Mosaic

Kissel/Erickson & Sederstrom Associates, LLC Nebraskans for a Healthy Future Ralston Public School District Sarpy County, United Cities of

Kohout, Joseph D. Kissel/E&S Associates, LLC

McCann, Carter G. McCann for LCCC

McClure, Jeanne L. Alegent Health

Miya, Pamela A.

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation

Morfeld, Adam Civic Reform, Nebraskans for

Mortland, Thomas Berkshire Hathaway Homestate Companies

Paden, Nicholas Broadband Coalition, Nebraska

Peetz, Natalie, Peetz & Company Alegent Health Behavioral Health, Advocates for

Plofchan, Paul Pfizer, Inc.

Prenda, Amy Cutshall & Nowka

Radcliffe, Walter H., of Radcliffe & Associates Big John's Billiards, Inc. Metropolitan Community College

Rickman, Valerie Information Technology Industry Council (Withdrawn 09/02/2008)

Solheim, David C. Civic Reform, Nebraskans for

Troutman, Gary City of Bellevue

Werner, Terry Social Workers, Nebraska Chapter, National Association of

Zulkowski, Katie W. Ruth & Mueller, LLC

#### VISITOR

Visitor to the Chamber was Tori Haussler from Arapahoe.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:44 p.m., on a motion by Senator Pirsch, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 19, 2008.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## FIFTH DAY - NOVEMBER 19, 2008

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## FIFTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Wednesday, November 19, 2008

## PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Carlson.

## ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., Senator Langemeier presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Raikes and Schimek who were excused.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

Page 61, line 2, before "VISITOR" insert the following:

REPORT OF REGISTERED LOBBYISTS

Following is a list of all lobbyists who have registered as of November 17, 2008, in accordance with Section 49-1481, Revised Statutes of Nebraska. Additional lobbyists who have registered will be filed weekly.

(Signed) Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

Amack, Angela K.
Columbus Public Schools

American Communications Group, Inc. American Wind Energy Association

Angus, Mary E.
ARC of Nebraska

Boesch, Elizabeth L. Nebraska Public Power District Bydalek, Dave Family First

Campbell, Mary Lincoln Public Schools

Hamilton Consulting Life Lock, Inc.

Hickox, Scott
Takeda Pharmaceuticals America

Jensen, Ronald L./Jensen Associates, Inc. Children's Respite Care Center, Inc. Mosaic

Kissel/Erickson & Sederstrom Associates, LLC Nebraskans for a Healthy Future Ralston Public School District Sarpy County, United Cities of

Kohout, Joseph D. Kissel/E&S Associates, LLC

McCann, Carter G.
McCann for LCCC

McClure, Jeanne L. Alegent Health

Miya, Pamela A.

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation

Morfeld, Adam Civic Reform, Nebraskans for

Mortland, Thomas
Berkshire Hathaway Homestate Companies

Paden, Nicholas Broadband Coalition, Nebraska

Peetz, Natalie, Peetz & Company Alegent Health Behavioral Health, Advocates for

Plofchan, Paul Pfizer, Inc. Prenda, Amy Cutshall & Nowka

Radcliffe, Walter H., of Radcliffe & Associates Big John's Billiards, Inc. Metropolitan Community College

Rickman, Valerie Information Technology Industry Council (Withdrawn 09/02/2008)

Solheim, David C. Civic Reform, Nebraskans for

Troutman, Gary City of Bellevue

Werner, Terry Social Workers, Nebraska Chapter, National Association of

Zulkowski, Katie W. Ruth & Mueller, LLC

The Journal for the fourth day was approved as corrected.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Enrollment and Review

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Placed on Select File.

(Signed) Amanda McGill, Chairperson

## RESOLUTION

# **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 7.** Introduced by Schimek, 27.

WHEREAS, Bernice R. Labedz was born September 9, 1919, in Omaha, Nebraska, and was one of seventeen children. She was a graduate of Omaha South High School and married Stanley Labedz in 1942 with whom she had four children; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Labedz was a member of the Omaha Police and Firemen's VFW Auxiliary No. 9551 and was a member of many organizations, including the Q Street Merchants and the Catholic Daughters of America, was a trustee for the Mercy High School Development Council; served on the board of directors for Meyer Children's Rehabilitation Institute, was a member of the South Omaha Christians for Life, served on the Board of Trustees of the Uta Halee Girls Village Endowment Fund, Inc. and the Advisory Committee of the Wildlife Rescue Team, was a member of the board of Trustees of the United Catholic Social Services, served as a vice president of the Omaha Telecasters Educational Foundation, served on

the Nebraska Chapter of the Professional Advisory Board of the National Society for Children and Adults with Autism, served on the President's Council of the Girls' Club of Omaha, and was a member of the Hall of Fame Commission; and

WHEREAS, Bernice Labedz was appointed to the Legislature in 1976, serving Legislative District 5 in Omaha for eighteen years and nobly dedicated her life to her community through community service, including service on the Douglas County Board and as an employee of the Nebraska Department of Revenue, the United States Senate, and the Omaha mayor's office: and

WHEREAS, Bernice Labedz, driven by her faith, her love of south Omaha, and her great love for her family and friends, fought for noble causes with courage, conviction, grace, and determination, gaining and sharing respect from and with all with whom she worked over the course of her distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, former Senator Bernice Labedz died on November 15, 2008, at the age of eighty-nine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature extends its condolences to the family of Bernice Labedz.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be delivered to the family of Bernice Labedz.

Laid over.

## SELECT FILE

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 2.** Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 1. Considered.

Senator Flood requested a machine vote on the advancement of the bill.

Senator Chambers requested a record vote on the advancement of the bill.

Voting in the affirmative, 41:

Adams Aguilar Ashford Avery Burling Carlson Chambers Christensen Cornett	Dierks Engel Erdman Fischer Flood Friend Fulton Gay Hansen	Harms Heidemann Howard Hudkins Janssen Johnson Karpisek Kruse Langemeier	Lathrop Lautenbaugh McDonald McGill Nantkes Nelson Pahls Pankonin Pirsch	Rogert Stuthman Wallman White Wightman
--	--	--	--	--

Voting in the negative, 6:

Dubas Louden Preister Kopplin Pedersen Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 2:

Raikes Schimek

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment with 41 ayes, 6 nays, and 2 excused and not voting.

#### EASE

The Legislature was at ease from 10:00 a.m. until 10:08 a.m.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Enrollment and Review** 

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1.** Placed on Final Reading. **LEGISLATIVE BILL 2.** Placed on Final Reading.

(Signed) Amanda McGill, Chairperson

#### RESOLUTION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 8.** Introduced by Gay, 14; Cornett, 45.

WHEREAS, the Papillion La Vista girls volleyball team has displayed remarkable ability and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, the Papillion La Vista girls volleyball team achieved a record of 41 wins and 1 loss; and

WHEREAS, the Papillion La Vista girls volleyball team defeated Papillion La Vista South 25-22, 25-21, 25-23 to win the 2008 Class A Girls State Volleyball Championship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Papillion La Vista girls volleyball team be congratulated for its success.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Papillion La Vista girls volleyball team and their coach, J. J. Toczek.

Laid over.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 10:09 a.m., on a motion by Senator Kopplin, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Thursday, November  $20,\,2008$ .

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## SIXTH DAY - NOVEMBER 20, 2008

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## SIXTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Thursday, November 20, 2008

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Wallman.

#### ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., President Sheehy presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Kopplin, Pedersen, and Schimek who were excused.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the fifth day was approved.

## RESOLUTION

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 9.** Introduced by Christensen, 44.

WHEREAS, Dallas J. McMurtrey of McCook, Nebraska, has completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific skills are required to advance through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and finally Eagle Scout. Throughout his scouting experience, Dallas has learned, been tested on, and been recognized for various scouting skills; and

WHEREAS, to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, a Boy Scout is required to earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are in required areas, and complete a community service project approved by the troop and the scout council. Dallas, for his Eagle Scout community service project, sent care packages to soldiers serving in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, only a small percentage of the boys who join the Boy Scouts of America achieve the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, Dallas, through his hard work and perseverance, will join other high achievers who are Eagle Scouts, such as astronauts, political and industry leaders, artists, scientists, and athletes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Dallas J. McMurtrey on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.
  - 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dallas J. McMurtrey.

Laid over.

# **MOTIONS - Approve Appointments**

Senator Cornett moved the adoption of the Business and Labor Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 51:

Department of Labor

Catherine D. Lang, Commissioner of Labor

Voting in the affirmative, 44:

Adams	Dubas	Harms	Lathrop	Pirsch
Aguilar	Engel	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Raikes
Ashford	Erdman	Howard	Louden	Rogert
Burling	Fischer	Hudkins	McDonald	Stuthman
Carlson	Flood	Janssen	McGill	Synowiecki
Chambers	Friend	Johnson	Nantkes	Wallman
Christensen	Fulton	Karpisek	Nelson	White
Cornett	Gay	Kruse	Pahls	Wightman
Dierks	Hansen	Langemeier	Pankonin	-

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 2:

Avery Preister

Excused and not voting, 3:

Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 44 ayes, 0 nays, 2 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Senator Johnson moved the adoption of the Health and Human Services Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 52:

State Board of Health

Paul Salansky

Theodore Evans, Jr.

John Tennity

Eric Berggren Dan Bizzell

Kenneth Kester

# Voting in the affirmative, 41:

Adams	Erdman	Howard	McDonald	Stuthman
Aguilar	Fischer	Hudkins	McGill	Synowiecki
Avery	Flood	Janssen	Nantkes	Wallman
Burling	Friend	Johnson	Nelson	White
Carlson	Fulton	Kruse	Pahls	Wightman
Chambers	Gay	Langemeier	Pankonin	_
Christensen	Hansen	Lathrop	Pirsch	
Dubas	Harms	Lautenbaugh	Raikes	
Engel	Heidemann	Louden	Rogert	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 4:

Ashford Cornett Karpisek Preister

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointments were confirmed with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Johnson moved the adoption of the Health and Human Services Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 52:

Board of Emergency Medical Services

Timothy Hoffman

**Donald Harmon** 

Judith Henning

George Tom Surber

Voting in the affirmative, 39:

Adams Dubas Hansen Langemeier Pankonin Aguilar Heidemann Lautenbaugh Pirsch Engel Ashford Erdman Howard Louden Rogert Fischer Hudkins McDonald Stuthman Avery Flood Janssen McGill Wallman Burling Carlson Friend Johnson Nantkes White Chambers Fulton Karpisek Nelson Wightman Christensen Kruse **Pahls** Gay

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 6:

Cornett Lathrop Raikes Harms Preister Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointments were confirmed with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Johnson moved the adoption of the Health and Human Services Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 52:

Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board Jennie Cole-Mossman Joni Kuzma

Voting in the affirmative, 42:

Erdman Howard Adams McDonald Rogert Fischer Hudkins McGill Stuthman Aguilar Avery Flood Janssen Nantkes Svnowiecki Burling Friend Johnson Nelson Wallman Carlson Fulton Pahls White Karpisek Pankonin Chambers Gav Kruse Wightman Christensen Hansen Pirsch Langemeier Dubas Harms Lautenbaugh Preister Heidemann Engel Louden Raikes

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 3:

Ashford Cornett Lathrop

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointments were confirmed with 42 ayes, 0 nays, 3 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Fischer moved the adoption of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 53:

Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board

Darlene Noah Charles Borgmann Sammy Reagan

Voting in the affirmative, 39:

Adams	Engel	Harms	Louden	Raikes
Aguilar	Erdman	Heidemann	McDonald	Rogert
Ashford	Fischer	Howard	McGill	Stuthman
Avery	Flood	Hudkins	Nantkes	Synowiecki
Burling	Friend	Johnson	Nelson	Wallman
Carlson	Fulton	Kruse	Pahls	White
Christensen	Gay	Lathrop	Pirsch	Wightman
Dubas	Hansen	Lautenbaugh	Preister	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 6:

Chambers Janssen Langemeier Cornett Karpisek Pankonin

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointments were confirmed with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Fischer moved the adoption of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 53:

Nebraska Highway Commission Rodney Vandeberg

Voting in the affirmative, 38:

Adams Erdman Howard McDonald Rogert Hudkins Fischer Nantkes Aguilar Stuthman Ashford Flood Nelson Svnowiecki Janssen Pahls Wallman Burling Fulton Johnson Carlson Kruse Pankonin White Gav Christensen Hansen Lathrop Pirsch Wightman Lautenbaugh Dubas Harms Preister Heidemann Louden Raikes Engel

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 7:

Avery Cornett Karpisek McGill

Chambers Friend Langemeier

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 38 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Aguilar moved the adoption of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 53:

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Paul Hosford

Voting in the affirmative, 40:

Erdman Heidemann Pirsch Adams Lathrop Aguilar Fischer Howard Lautenbaugh Preister Flood Hudkins Louden Raikes Avery Burling Friend Janssen McDonald Rogert Carlson Fulton Johnson Nantkes Stuthman Christensen Nelson Wallman Gav Karpisek White Dubas Hansen Kruse Pahls Harms Langemeier Pankonin Engel Wightman

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 5:

Ashford Chambers Cornett McGill Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 40 ayes, 0 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Aguilar moved the adoption of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 53:

State Personnel Board Amber Brown

Voting in the affirmative, 40:

Adams	Engel	Harms	Lautenbaugh	Pirsch
Aguilar	Erdman	Heidemann	Louden	Preister
Ashford	Fischer	Howard	McDonald	Raikes
Avery	Flood	Hudkins	McGill	Rogert
Burling	Friend	Karpisek	Nantkes	Stuthman
Carlson	Fulton	Kruse	Nelson	Wallman
Christensen	Gay	Langemeier	Pahls	White
Dubas	Hansen	Lathrop	Pankonin	Wightman

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 5:

Chambers Cornett Janssen Johnson Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 40 ayes, 0 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Louden moved the adoption of the Natural Resources Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 54:

Nebraska Environmental Trust Board James Stuart, Jr.

Voting in the affirmative, 39:

Adams Fischer Howard Lautenbaugh Preister Hudkins Ashford Flood Louden Raikes Friend McGill Rogert Avery Janssen Burling Fulton Johnson Nantkes Stuthman Carlson Karpisek Nelson Wallman Gav Christensen Hansen Kruse **Pahls** White Dubas Harms Pankonin Wightman Langemeier Erdman Heidemann Pirsch Lathrop

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 6:

Aguilar Cornett McDonald Chambers Engel Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Louden moved the adoption of the Natural Resources Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 54:

Nebraska Energy Office Neil Moseman, Director

Voting in the affirmative, 41:

Erdman Hudkins McDonald Adams Rogert Fischer McGill Stuthman Aguilar Janssen Ashford Flood Johnson Nantkes Wallman Fulton Karpisek Nelson White Avery Pahls Burling Gav Kruse Wightman Carlson Hansen Pankonin Langemeier Christensen Pirsch Harms Lathrop Dubas Heidemann Lautenbaugh Preister

Louden

Raikes

Voting in the negative, 0.

Engel

Howard

Present and not voting, 4:

Chambers Cornett Friend Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Louden moved the adoption of the Natural Resources Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 54:

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Richard Mercer

Voting in the affirmative, 41:

Adams	Erdman	Howard	Louden	Raikes
Aguilar	Fischer	Hudkins	McDonald	Rogert
Ashford	Flood	Janssen	McGill	Wallman
Avery	Friend	Johnson	Nantkes	White
Burling	Fulton	Karpisek	Nelson	Wightman
Carlson	Gay	Kruse	Pahls	_
Christensen	Hansen	Langemeier	Pankonin	
Dubas	Harms	Lathrop	Pirsch	
Engel	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Preister	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 4:

Chambers Cornett Stuthman Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 4:

Dierks Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Louden moved the adoption of the Natural Resources Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 54:

Nebraska Ethanol Board Charles Tod Brodersen

Voting in the affirmative, 39:

Adams Erdman Howard Louden Preister Hudkins McDonald Fischer Raikes Aguilar Ashford Friend McGill Janssen Rogert Avery Fulton Karpisek Nantkes Stuthman Nelson Wallman Burling Gav Kruse Carlson Hansen Langemeier Pahls White Christensen Harms Pankonin Lathrop Wightman Heidemann Lautenbaugh Pirsch Engel

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 5:

Chambers Cornett Flood Johnson Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 5:

Dierks Dubas Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator Raikes moved the adoption of the Education Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 56:

Board of Educational Lands and Funds

DeMarus Carlson

Voting in the affirmative, 41:

Adams Fischer Hudkins McDonald Rogert Aguilar Flood Janssen McGill Stuthman Ashford Friend Nantkes Wallman Johnson Nelson Avery Fulton Karpisek White Kruse Pahls Burling Gay Wightman Carlson Hansen Pankonin Langemeier Christensen Harms Lathrop Pirsch Engel Heidemann Lautenbaugh Preister

Louden

Raikes

Voting in the negative, 0.

Erdman

Present and not voting, 3:

Chambers Cornett Synowiecki

Howard

Excused and not voting, 5:

Dierks Dubas Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 3 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator Raikes moved the adoption of the Education Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 56:

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission Darlene Starman

Voting in the affirmative, 39:

Adams	Erdman	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Preister
Aguilar	Fischer	Howard	Louden	Raikes
Ashford	Flood	Hudkins	McDonald	Rogert
Avery	Friend	Johnson	Nantkes	Stuthman
Burling	Fulton	Karpisek	Nelson	Wallman
Carlson	Gay	Kruse	Pahls	White
Christensen	Hansen	Langemeier	Pankonin	Wightman
Engel	Harms	Lathrop	Pirsch	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 5:

Chambers Cornett Janssen McGill Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 5:

Dierks Dubas Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator Ashford moved the adoption of the Judiciary Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 58:

Crime Victim's Reparations Committee

Scot Ford

William Brueggemann

Derek Vaughn

Voting in the affirmative, 37:

Adams Ashford	Erdman Fischer	Howard Hudkins	Louden McDonald	Rogert Stuthman
Avery	Flood	Johnson	McGill	Wallman
Burling	Friend	Karpisek	Nantkes	White
Carlson	Fulton	Kruse	Nelson	Wightman
Christensen	Gay	Langemeier	Pahls	
Cornett	Hansen	Lathrop	Pankonin	
Engel	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Pirsch	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 7:

Aguilar Harms Preister Synowiecki

Chambers Janssen Raikes

Excused and not voting, 5:

Dierks Dubas Kopplin Pedersen Schimek

The appointments were confirmed with 37 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator Ashford moved the adoption of the Judiciary Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 58:

Nebraska Board of Parole Rosalvn Cotton

Voting in the affirmative, 36:

Ashford Flood McDonald Janssen Rogert McGill Wallman Fulton Avery Johnson Burling Gay Karpisek Nantkes White Carlson Hansen Kruse Nelson Wightman Langemeier Christensen Harms Pahls

Christensen Harms Langemeier Pahls
Cornett Heidemann Lathrop Pankonin
Engel Howard Lautenbaugh Pirsch
Fischer Hudkins Louden Preister

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 7:

Adams Chambers Raikes Synowiecki

Aguilar Friend Stuthman

Excused and not voting, 6:

Dierks Erdman Pedersen Dubas Kopplin Schimek

The appointment was confirmed with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 6 excused and not voting.

Senator McDonald moved the adoption of the General Affairs Committee report for the confirmation of the following appointment(s) found on page 54:

## Nebraska Liquor Control Commission Robert Batt

Voting in the affirmative, 35:

Adams	Fischer	Hudkins	Louden	Pirsch
Ashford	Flood	Janssen	McDonald	Preister
Carlson	Friend	Johnson	McGill	Rogert
Christensen	Fulton	Karpisek	Nantkes	Stuthman
Cornett	Gay	Langemeier	Nelson	Wallman
Dierks	Heidemann	Lathrop	Pahls	White
Engel	Howard	Lautenbaugh	Pankonin	Wightman

Voting in the negative, 0.

Present and not voting, 7:

Aguilar Burling Kruse Synowiecki Avery Chambers Raikes

Excused and not voting, 7:

Dubas Hansen Kopplin Schimek

Erdman Harms Pedersen

The appointment was confirmed with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 7 excused and not voting.

## RESOLUTIONS

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 7.** Read. Considered.

LR7 was adopted with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 7 excused and not voting.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 10.** Introduced by Dierks, 40.

WHEREAS, the Ewing Tigers won the 2008 Class D-2 Girls State Volleyball Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Ewing Tigers defeated the Chambers Coyotes 25-18, 25-18, 25-12 in the championship match; and

WHEREAS, the Ewing Tigers rallied under the direction of coach Suz Funk to achieve this victory; and

WHEREAS, the Ewing Tigers completed their perfect season as the only undefeated volleyball team in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Ewing Lady Tigers be congratulated for their achievement in winning the Class D-2 Girls State Volleyball Championship.
- 2. That the Legislature congratulates the head coach Suz Funk for an excellent season and guidance of her team.
- 3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ewing Lady Tigers and their head coach Suz Funk.

Laid over.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Add Cointroducer

Senator Preister asked unanimous consent to add his name as cointroducer to LR7. No objections. So ordered.

#### **VISITORS**

Visitors to the Chamber were Senator Preister's brother and niece, Rick and Amy Preister, from Papillion.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 10:17 a.m., on a motion by Senator Hudkins, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Friday, November 21, 2008.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

## **SEVENTH DAY - NOVEMBER 21, 2008**

#### LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

# ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

#### SEVENTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Friday, November 21, 2008

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Kruse.

#### ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., Speaker Flood presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senator Schimek who was excused.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the sixth day was approved.

#### REPORTS

The following reports were received by the Legislature:

## Information Technology Commission, Nebraska

**Progress Report** 

Recommendations on Technology Investments for the FY2009-2011 Biennium

# Investment Finance Authority, Nebraska (NIFA)

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Revenue Bonds Series 2008 B Quarterly Report

Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2007 IJK Quarterly Report Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2008 AB Quarterly Report Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2008 CDE Quarterly Report

Single Family Housing Revenue Bonds Series 2008 FGH Quarterly Report

## Power Review Board, Nebraska

Annual Report - 2008 Monitoring of "Conditions Certain" Issues

## Research Division, Legislative

State Boards and Commissions in Nebraska, 2008

# Roads, Nebraska Department of

Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards Minutes for September 2008

#### BILLS ON FINAL READING

The following bills were read and put upon final passage:

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 1**. With Emergency.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to juveniles; to amend section 29-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to prohibition of prosecution for leaving a child at a hospital and duties for the hospital; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass with the emergency clause attached?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 43:

Adams	Dierks	Harms	Lathrop	Pirsch
Aguilar	Engel	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Raikes
Ashford	Erdman	Howard	Louden	Rogert
Avery	Fischer	Hudkins	McDonald	Stuthman
Burling	Flood	Janssen	McGill	Wallman
Carlson	Friend	Johnson	Nantkes	White
Chambers	Fulton	Karpisek	Nelson	Wightman
Christensen	Gay	Kruse	Pahls	
Cornett	Hansen	Langemeier	Pankonin	

Voting in the negative, 5:

Dubas Kopplin Pedersen Preister Synowiecki

Excused and not voting, 1:

#### Schimek

A constitutional two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed with the emergency clause and the title agreed to.

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 2**. With Emergency.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds for the expenses incurred during the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session, 2008; and to declare an emergency.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass with the emergency clause attached?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 48:

Adams	Dubas	Heidemann	Lautenbaugh	Preister
Aguilar	Engel	Howard	Louden	Raikes
Ashford	Erdman	Hudkins	McDonald	Rogert
Avery	Fischer	Janssen	McGill	Stuthman
Burling	Flood	Johnson	Nantkes	Synowiecki
Carlson	Friend	Karpisek	Nelson	Wallman
Chambers	Fulton	Kopplin	Pahls	White
Christensen	Gay	Kruse	Pankonin	Wightman
Cornett	Hansen	Langemeier	Pedersen	
Dierks	Harms	Lathrop	Pirsch	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Excused and not voting, 1:

## Schimek

A constitutional two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed with the emergency clause and the title agreed to.

#### SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LBs 1 and 2.

#### RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 4. Read. Considered.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 5. Read. Considered.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 6. Read. Considered.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 8.** Read. Considered.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 9.** Read. Considered.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 10. Read. Considered.

LRs 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 were adopted with 44 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

## **MOTION - Suspend Rules**

Senator Stuthman offered the following motion:

MO3

Suspend the rules, Rule 4, Sec. 6, to permit consideration of LR11.

The Stuthman motion to suspend the rules prevailed with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

#### RESOLUTION

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 11.** Introduced by Stuthman, 22.

WHEREAS, the Howells Bobcats won the 2008 Class D-1 State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Bobcats defeated the Axtell Wildcats 46-21 to win the title: and

WHEREAS, Howells ends their season undefeated at 13-0; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates the Howells Bobcats on winning the 2008 Class D-1 State Football Championship.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Howells Bobcats and their head coach, Michael Speirs.

LR11 was adopted with 44 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Pursuant to Rule 4, Sec. 5(b), LRs 1, 2, and 3 were adopted.

## SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LRs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

## PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

Presented to the Governor on November 21, 2008, at 9:18 a.m. were the following: LBs 1e and 2e.

(Signed) Jamie Kruse Clerk of the Legislature's Office

# **MOTION - Approve Journal**

Senator Janssen moved that the Journal for the Seventh Day, as prepared by the Clerk of the Legislature, be approved.

The motion prevailed.

# **MOTION - Adjourn Sine Die**

Senator Kopplin moved that the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session of the Nebraska Legislature, having finished all business before it, now at 9:25 a.m., adjourn sine die.

The motion prevailed.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

#### RECEIVED AFTER ADJOURNMENT

### LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

#### MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

November 21, 2008

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature 2018 State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Engrossed Legislative Bills 1e and 2e were received in my office on November 21, 2008. I signed these bills and delivered them to the Secretary of State on November 21, 2008, following the sine die adjournment of the Legislature.

Enclosed is my correspondence to Secretary of State John Gale.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosure

November 21, 2008

The Honorable John Gale Secretary of State 2300 State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Secretary Gale:

Pursuant to Article IV, §15 of the Nebraska Constitution, I am notifying you that, following the sine die adjournment of the Legislature, I signed Legislative Bills 1e and 2e, both of which were received in my office, today. The original laws are enclosed with this correspondence.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Dave Heineman
Governor

Enclosures

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

November 21, 2008

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature 2018 State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Pursuant to Article IV, §15 of the Nebraska Constitution, I am notifying you that, following the sine die adjournment of the Legislature, engrossed Legislative Bills 1e and 2e were signed by Governor Dave Heineman on November 21, 2008, and received in my office, today.

Sincerely, (Signed) John A. Gale Secretary of State

#### CERTIFICATE

I, Patrick J. O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature, hereby certify that the foregoing communications are true and correct copies provided concerning action on bills after adjournment of the One Hundredth Legislature, First Special Session.

Patrick J. O'Donnell Clerk of the Legislature

November 21, 2008 Lincoln, Nebraska