

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

Floor Debate  
January 10, 2007

---

[LB6 LB32 LB39 LB40 LB62 LB162 LB176 LB183 LB205 LB234 LB236 LB237 LB238  
LB239 LB240 LB241 LB242 LB243 LB244 LB245 LB246 LB247 LB248 LB249 LB250  
LB251 LB252 LB253 LB254 LB255 LB256 LB257 LB258 LB259 LB260 LB261 LB262  
LB263 LB264 LB265 LB266 LB267 LB268 LB269 LB270 LB271 LB272 LB273 LB274  
LB275 LB276 LB277 LB278 LB279 LB280 LB281 LB282 LB283 LB284 LB285 LB286  
LB287 LB288 LB289 LB290 LB291 LB292 LB293 LB294 LB295 LB296 LB297 LR7CA  
LR8CA]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY PRESIDING []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Good morning, and welcome to the George W. Norris  
Legislative Chamber for the sixth day of the One Hundredth Legislature, First Session.  
Our chaplain for today is Senator Janssen. Would you all please rise. []

SENATOR JANSSEN: (Prayer offered.) []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Janssen. I call to order the sixth day of the  
One Hundredth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence by  
roll call. Please record, Mr. Clerk. []

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

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you. Any corrections for the Journal? []

CLERK: I have no corrections. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Any messages, reports, or announcements? []

CLERK: Mr. President, a Reference report referring LB108-LB176. Health and Human  
Services Committee would like to announce that Senator Gay has been selected as  
Vice Chair of the committee. Hearing notices from Health and Human Services, from  
Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs, and from the Judiciary Committee.  
Announcement, Mr. President, Retirement Committee will meet at 11:15 in Room 2022;  
Retirement Committee, 11:15. That's all that I have at this time. (Legislative Journal  
pages 159-162.) []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I do have two announcements. (Doctor of  
the day and visitors introduced.) We'll now move to the next item on the agenda,  
introduction of new bills. Mr. Clerk. []

CLERK: Mr. President, new bills. (Read LB236-246 by title for the first time.) That's all  
that I have at this time, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 162-164.) [LB236  
LB237 LB238 LB239 LB240 LB241 LB242 LB243 LB244 LB245 LB246]

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

Floor Debate  
January 10, 2007

---

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk, do you have new bills for introduction at your desk? []

CLERK: I do, Mr. President, thank you. (Read LB247-264 by title for the first time.) That's all that I have at this time, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 164-168.) [LB247 LB248 LB249 LB250 LB251 LB252 LB253 LB254 LB255 LB256 LB257 LB258 LB259 LB260 LB261 LB262 LB263 LB264]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Speaker Flood, you're recognized on the floor. []

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. If I could have your attention for just a few moments here, I want to maybe lay out for you what we're going to do with priority bills in this One Hundredth Legislature, and also this morning foreshadow the schedule the next couple of days. In a few moments, you're going to receive two separate memos, the first of which is a letter dated January 10, 2007, from me to each of you that outlines the different dates that I'm going to employ to get our priority bill designations set forward. So the first date that you need to remember--and I guess as a caveat, we are going to use a priority bill system similar to that of the Ninety-Ninth Legislature. Priority bill designation, we will accept those committee and senator priority bills on or before...or on or after, I should say, January 18, 2007. The last day to get a senator or committee priority bill designation to me is by the end of adjournment on March 9, 2007. I will accept requests for speaker priority bills beginning February 26 until adjournment on March 9. All of this will be in the memo so that you can follow these dates. As a general rule, I plan to get to each committee first priority bill. Remember, committees have two priority bills; committee first priority bills and senator priority bills. Committee second priority bills and speaker priority bills will be scheduled to the extent that time is available. So please make your priority bills count. And certainly, committee chairs, as we've talked, your first committee priority is very important, and we would like that at your earliest convenience after we begin accepting committee priority bills. What are the considerations for the criteria for priority bill scheduling? Similar to last year but modified a bit, to the extent to which the bill reflects committee evaluation, input, consensus, making sure that all the issues surrounding the bill have been considered, the technical amendments have been drafted and are prepared, that the level of opposition has at least been addressed in every way possible without disturbing the intent of the primary introducer, those are considerations that I've outlined on page 2 for a priority bill and I'm going to be asking those questions as we prepare the schedule. The second memo that you're going to receive is more of a...just a technical reminder of the things that you need to do pursuant to Rule 5 to designate your priority bill and some of the deadlines and the specifics. So please look those over and go over them with your staff. If you have questions about either of those two memos or what I've said here on the floor, you can certainly see me or a member of the

Floor Debate  
January 10, 2007

---

Speaker's staff. Senator priority bills, I want to reiterate, you only get one shot so make sure that the bill you pick, be very cognizant of the fact that it's going to either make it out of committee or it already has made it out of committee. If it dies in committee, so does your priority. If you send a letter that identifies LB123 as your bill and you really meant LB124, as soon as it's read into the Journal, your priority bill is LB123. So be very careful. And that has happened in the past. As soon as Mr. Clerk reads it into the Journal, that's the one we're going to pay attention to, and so follow the rules in there. The third thing I want to talk about, tomorrow we're going to begin at 9:30. The Governor is going to give his State of the State address at 10 a.m., and I anticipate we will adjourn no later than 11:30 tomorrow morning, in hopes of getting to referencing right away. So if you have bills, from 9:30 to 10:00, and then after the Governor's speech until hopefully around 11:30. On Friday, we're going to begin the rules debate. The Rules Committee meets this afternoon. Depending on what is moved to the floor, we will have that discussion beginning at 9 a.m. Friday morning, and we will adjourn prior to 11:45 to accommodate the ceremony that will be held in the Rotunda honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Next week, I've received a lot of questions; when are we going to start? It's dependent and conditioned upon what we accomplish on Friday. If we are able to adopt permanent rules, I anticipate starting as we have done at 11:00 in the morning. If we do not adopt permanent rules and the debate continues...I should strike that. I'm talking about Tuesday, the holiday is Monday, we're talking about Tuesday. If we do not adopt permanent rules on Friday, I anticipate we will begin at 10:00 in the morning and go until noon with rules debate and continue at 9:00 on Wednesday and each day thereafter until those are final. So that's just a little foreshadowing of what we anticipate the next couple of days. Please review the notes that you receive from my office on priority bills. Things, I think, are going well. I appreciate your support and thank you for listening. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Speaker Flood. Mr. Clerk, do you have additional new bills at your desk? []

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. (Read LB265-272 by title for the first time.) And that's all that I have at this time, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 168-169.) [LB265 LB266 LB267 LB268 LB269 LB270 LB271 LB272]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Microphone malfunction)...at your desk? []

CLERK: Mr. President, new bills. (Read LB273-297 by title for the first time.) Two new constitutional amendments. LR7CA by Senator Kruse proposes an amendment to Article III, Section 7. LR8CA by Senator Avery proposing an amendment to Article III, Section 2. Senator Kopplin would like to withdraw LB224, that will be laid over. Notice of hearings from the Revenue Committee and Natural Resources Committee. Senator Synowiecki as Chair of Retirement Systems would announce that Senator White has

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

Floor Debate  
January 10, 2007

---

been selected as Vice Chair of the Retirement Systems Committee. And a series of name adds: Senator Howard to LB40, to LB39; Senator Harms to LB6; Senator Howard to LB32; Senator Pirsch to LB62; Senator Mines to LB162; Senator McDonald to LB176; Senator Pankonin, LB183; Senator Adams, LB205; Senator Dubas to LB234. (Legislative Journal pages 169-177.) [LB273 LB274 LB275 LB276 LB277 LB278 LB279 LB280 LB281 LB282 LB283 LB284 LB285 LB286 LB287 LB288 LB289 LB290 LB291 LB292 LB293 LB294 LB295 LB296 LB297 LR7CA LR8CA LB40 LB39 LB6 LB32 LB62 LB162 LB176 LB183 LB205 LB234]

Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Preister would move to adjourn until Thursday morning, January 11, at 9:30 a.m. []

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: I have a motion by Senator Preister to adjourn until Thursday, January 11, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. All those in favor say aye. Opposed, nay. We are adjourned. []