

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

Floor Debate  
March 01, 2012

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the thirty-seventh day of the One Hundred Second Legislature, Second Session. Our chaplain for today is Pastor Michael Davis from the United Methodist Church in Elgin, Nebraska, Senator Sullivan's district. Would you all please rise.

PASTOR DAVIS: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Pastor Davis. I now call to order the thirty-seventh day of the One Hundred Second Legislature, Second Session. Senators, please record your presence. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

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

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Are there corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, lobby report this week as required by statute.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: (Gavel)

CLERK: And in my office we've received a report from the Crime Commission. That will be on file and available for member review. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 705-706.)

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will now move to the first item under General File, appropriations bill, LB993A. [LB993A]

CLERK: LB993A is a bill by Senator Ashford. (Read title.) [LB993A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Ashford, you're recognized to open on LB993A. [LB993A]

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SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President. This is the A bill that is trailing the Child Advocacy Center bill that has been moved on to Select File. With that, I would ask for its positive vote on this and advancement of LB993A. Thank you. [LB993A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Ashford. You have heard the opening to LB993A. Seeing no requests to speak, Senator Ashford, you're recognized to close. Senator Ashford waives closing. The question before the body is on the advancement of LB993A. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB993A]

CLERK: 41 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB993A. [LB993A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB993A advances. We'll now proceed to LB950A. [LB993A LB950A]

CLERK: LB950A by Senator Christensen. (Read title.) [LB950A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Christensen, you're recognized to open on LB950A. [LB950A]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: LB950A is just the \$7.2 million that we're talking moving from the contingency fund or would have went to the General Fund, back into the Water Cash Resources Fund so we can use it to match local dollars against state dollars for fulfilling the need of water projects in the state of Nebraska. Thank you. [LB950A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Christensen. You've heard the opening to LB950A. Member requesting to speak, Senator Heidemann. [LB950A]

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: Thank you, Mr. President and fellow members of the body. First of all, I want to apologize to the body. I was busy yesterday, I should have been on the floor more and I wasn't. And LB950 was able to pass without me asking a couple questions. And because of that, I have to take liberty now to do it on LB950. My procedure usually is if a bill passes, I support the A bill, and I can't do that right now because I didn't do my due duty yesterday. When we, in 2008, I believe it was 2008, we as a body went and we asked for a loan from the state of Nebraska. And anybody is aware of any time you go to a bank and you ask for a loan they want their money back. And processwise I believe that we should do that. We should put that money into the Cash Reserve. And if we want to put money into the Water Resources Cash Fund, which I support, if anybody remembers last year I tried to go out and get money for the Water Resources Cash Fund. It's something that's near and dear to me also. What I am trying to protect here is the process and to me just the integrity of the Legislature to be right truthful. What I would like to do is have a conversation with Senator Christensen and maybe we can find some common ground. Would he yield? [LB950A LB950]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Christensen, would you yield to Senator Heidemann?  
[LB950A]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Yes. [LB950A]

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: I understand what you're trying to do. I agree with what you're trying to do and that's put money in the Water Resources Cash Fund. I don't like the process exactly the way you chose to do it. Would you be amenable for a Select File amendment to strike your bill and to put in it, we as the Legislature, however it works, and I will work with you to make it work, but we as the Legislature shall appropriate \$7.2 million to the Water Resources Cash Fund out of the General Fund. Would you be amenable to something like that? [LB950A]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Yes, I would. [LB950A]

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: If we can accomplish this from General File to Select File, I will work with you. I will give you my commitment on that and I'll also give you my commitment that I will vote for it. So I appreciate that. Thank you, Senator Christensen. Thank you. [LB950A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Heidemann. Senator Langemeier.  
[LB950A]

SENATOR LANGEMEIER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to kind of echo the conversation you've had here. I am truly one that believes in this great institution and the processes we follow in the past and into the future and look forward to those discussions about taking this through a procedure that would be replicated time and time again. Thank you. [LB950A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Langemeier. Seeing no additional requests to speak, Senator Christensen, you're recognized to close. Senator Christensen waives closing. The question before the body is on the advancement of LB950A. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB950A]

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB950A. [LB950A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB950A advances. We will now move to items under Final Reading. Members should take their seats in preparation for Final Reading. Members, the beef sticks being handed out to you today are in honor of Senator Sullivan's birthday. Senator, happy birthday. (Doctor of the day introduced.) While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR403, LR404, LR405, and LR406. Mr. Clerk, we will now proceed to LB216. [LB950A]

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LR403 LR404 LR405 LR406 LB216]

CLERK: (Read LB216 on Final Reading.) [LB216]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB216 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB216]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 707.) 46 ayes, 1 nay, 1 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President. [LB216]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB216 passes. We'll now proceed to LB216A. [LB216 LB216A]

CLERK: (Read LB216A on Final Reading.) [LB216A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB216A pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB216A]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 707-708.) 47 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President. [LB216A]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB216A passes. We will now proceed to LB427. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB216A LB427]

CLERK: 46 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to dispense with the at-large reading. [LB427]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Mr. Clerk, please read the title. [LB427]

CLERK: (Read title of LB427.) [LB427]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB427 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB427]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 708-709.) 45 ayes, 3 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB427]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB427 passes. We will now proceed to LB459. [LB427 LB459]

CLERK: (Read LB459 on Final Reading.) [LB459]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB459 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB459]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislature Journal pages 709-710.) 47 ayes, 0 nays, 2 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB459]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB459 passes. We will now proceed to LB473. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is...Mr. Clerk. [LB459 LB473]

CLERK: Mr. President, thank you. Senator Sullivan, I understand you want to withdraw your motion, FA36? Senator Harr, I understand you want to do likewise. [LB473]

SENATOR HARR: Well, in a minute I will. Thank you. [LB473]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: We will be passing over LB473. Mr. Clerk, we will now proceed to LB507. [LB473 LB507]

CLERK: (Read LB507 on Final Reading.) [LB507]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB507 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB507]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 710.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB507]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB507 passes. We will now proceed to LB612. [LB507 LB612]

CLERK: (Read LB612 on Final Reading.) [LB612]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB612 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB612]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 711.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB612. [LB612]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB612 passes. Mr. Clerk, we will now proceed to LR19CA. [LB612 LR19CA]

CLERK: (Read LR19CA on Final Reading.) [LR19CA]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LR19CA pass providing for the submission of such proposition at the next general election? This requires 40 votes. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Correction, 30 votes. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LR19CA]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 712.) 45 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, Mr. President, on the passage of the constitutional amendment. [LR19CA]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LR19CA passes. We will now proceed to LB269. [LR19CA LB269]

CLERK: (Read LB269 on Final Reading.) [LB269]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB269 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB269]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 712-713.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB269]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB269 passes. We will now proceed to LB370. [LB269 LB370]

CLERK: (Read LB370 on Final Reading.) [LB370]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB370 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB370]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 713-714.) 48 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the passage of LB370. [LB370]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB370 passes. We will now proceed to LB470. [LB370 LB470]

CLERK: (Read LB470 on Final Reading.) [LB470]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB470 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB470]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 714.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB470]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB470 passes. We will now proceed to LB498. [LB470 LB498]

CLERK: (Read LB498 on Final Reading.) [LB498]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB498 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB498]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 715.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB498. [LB498]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB498 passes. We will now proceed to LB646. [LB498 LB646]

CLERK: (Read LB646 on Final Reading.) [LB646]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB646 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB646]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 715-716.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB646]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB646 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB677. [LB646 LB677]

CLERK: (Read LB677 on Final Reading.) [LB677]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB677 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB677]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 716.) 45 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB677]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB677 passes. We will now proceed to LB714. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB677 LB714]

CLERK: 45 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to dispense with the at-large reading. [LB714]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Please read the title. [LB714]

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CLERK: (Read title of LB714.) [LB714]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB714 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB714]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 717.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB714. [LB714]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB714 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB725. [LB714 LB725]

CLERK: (Read LB725 on Final Reading.) [LB725]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB725 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB725]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 717-718.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB725. [LB725]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB725 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB770. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB725 LB770]

CLERK: 45 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to dispense with the at-large reading. [LB770]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Please read the title. [LB770]

CLERK: (Read title of LB770.) [LB770]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB770 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB770]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 718-719.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President. [LB770]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB770 passes. We will now proceed to LB771. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB770 LB771]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: 40 ayes, 2 nays on the dispensing with the at-large reading, Mr. President. [LB771]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Please read the title. [LB771]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read title of LB771.) [LB771]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB771 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB771]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 719.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays on the passage of the bill, Mr. President. [LB771]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB771 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB800. [LB771 LB800]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB800 on Final Reading.) [LB800]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB800 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB800]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 720.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays on the final passage of the bill, Mr. President. [LB800]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB800 passes. We will now proceed to LB828. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB800 LB828]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 48 ayes, 0 nays to dispense with the at-large reading, Mr. President. [LB828]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Mr. Clerk, please read the title. [LB828]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read title of LB828.) [LB828]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB828 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB828]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 721.) The vote is 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB828]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB828 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB836. [LB828 LB836]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB836 on Final Reading.) [LB836]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB836 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB836]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 721-722.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President. [LB836]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB836 passes with the emergency clause attached. We'll now proceed to LB852. [LB836 LB852]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB852 on Final Reading.) [LB852]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB852 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB852]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 722.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays on the final passage of the bill, Mr. President. [LB852]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB852 passes. We will now proceed to LB853. [LB852 LB853]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB853 on Final Reading.) [LB853]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB853 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB853]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 723.) The vote is 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB853]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB853 passes. We will now proceed to LB854. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. All those in favor of dispensing with the at-large reading vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB853 LB854]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: 46 ayes, 0 nays to dispense with the at-large reading, Mr. President. [LB854]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Please read the title. [LB854]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read title of LB854.) [LB854]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB854 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB854]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 724.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President. [LB854]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB854 passes. We'll now proceed to LB873. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB854 LB873]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 44 ayes, 1 nay to dispense with the at-large reading, Mr. President. [LB873]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Mr. Clerk, please read the title. [LB873]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read title of LB873.) [LB873]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB873 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB873]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 724-725.) The vote is 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB873]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB873 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB879. [LB873 LB879]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB879 on Final Reading.) [LB879]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB879 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB879]

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ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 725.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the final passage of the bill. [LB879]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB879 passes. We will now proceed to LB886. [LB879 LB886]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB886 on Final Reading.) [LB886]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB886 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB886]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 726.) The vote is 49 ayes, 0 nays on the final passage of the bill, Mr. President. [LB886]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB886 passes. We will now proceed to LB890. [LB886 LB890]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB890 on Final Reading.) [LB890]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB890 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB890]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 726-727.) 49 ayes, 0 nays on the passage of LB890. [LB890]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB890 passes. We'll now proceed to LB911. [LB890 LB911]

CLERK: (Read LB911 on Final Reading.) [LB911]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB911 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB911]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 727.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB911. [LB911]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB911 passes. We'll now proceed to LB942. [LB911 LB942]

CLERK: (Read LB942 on Final Reading.) [LB942]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB942 pass? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay.

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Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB942]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 728.) 49 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the passage of LB942. [LB942]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB942 passes. We'll now proceed to LB1043. [LB942 LB1043]

CLERK: (Read LB1043 on Final Reading.) [LB1043]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB1043 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB1043]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 728-729.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB1043]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB1043 passes with the emergency clause attached. We will now proceed to LB1118. Mr. Clerk, the first vote is to dispense with the at-large reading. All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB1043 LB1118]

CLERK: 43 ayes, 3 nays to dispense with the at-large reading, Mr. President. [LB1118]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: The at-large reading is dispensed with. Mr. Clerk, please read the title. [LB1118]

CLERK: (Read title of LB1118.) [LB1118]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB1118 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB1118]

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 729-730.) 48 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, Mr. President. [LB1118]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: LB1118 passes with the emergency clause attached. Speaker Flood, you are recognized for an announcement. [LB1118]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President. Happy birthday, Nebraska. Happy birthday, Senator Sullivan, Senator Fischer. In just a moment you're going to get a memo from me from...regarding consent calendar. I do intend to have a 2012 consent calendar. I need you to have the committee Chairs forward their lists to me by March 8. That's the most important part of this. The close of business, 5 p.m., on March 8 is the time that I will be compiling all those lists. So if you have a bill that you want on consent

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calendar, please go see your committee Chair. And you'll see that in my memo there's a couple things that are very important: first of all, the bill is noncontroversial; it doesn't open up a topic that is controversial; bill does not add a lot of changes; bill does not have a General Fund impact. And here's the other part: the bill has to be reported to General File, meaning the committee hasn't just voted it out, the committee has actually reported that bill to General File and has handed it to the Clerk and the Clerk has read it over by March 8. Those are the important steps with consent calendar bills. And I do rely on the committee Chairs to kind of filter the bills. And then when the committee Chairs send them to me, then we'll look at those and determine which ones are eligible, in our office, for consent calendar. So I do hope that helps explain any questions. But we're going to be working on that here in the next couple of days; please visit with your committee Chairs. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Speaker Flood. Mr. Clerk, you have items for the record.

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Your Committee on Agriculture, chaired by Senator Carlson, reports LB1057 to General File with amendments. Revenue Committee, chaired by Senator Cornett, reports LB750 and LB1114 to General File with amendments. New resolution: Senator Price offers LR436; that will be laid over. Health Committee will meet in Exec Session now. Health Committee, Exec Session, now. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal, pages 730-733.) [LB1057 LB750 LB1114 LR436]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LB216, LB216A, LB427, LB459, LB507, LB612, LB269, LB370, LB470, LB498, LB646, LB677, LB714, LB725, LB770, LB771, LB800, LB828, LB836, LB852, LB853, LB854, LB873, LB879, LB886, LB890, LB911, LB942, LB1043, and LB1118, also LR19CA. Mr. Clerk, we will move to the first item under General File: 2012 Senator Priority Bills, Karpisek Division, LB1067. [LB216 LB216A LB427 LB459 LB507 LB612 LB269 LB370 LB470 LB498 LB646 LB677 LB714 LB725 LB770 LB771 LB800 LB828 LB836 LB852 LB853 LB854 LB873 LB879 LB886 LB890 LB911 LB942 LB1043 LB1118 LR19CA LB1067]

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may, Transportation Committee will meet in Executive Session now in 2022. LB1067; it's a bill by Senator Karpisek. (Read title.) [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: (Gavel) [LB1067]

CLERK: It was introduced on January 18, referred to the General Affairs Committee for public hearing, advanced to General File. There are committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM1961, Legislative Journal page 540.) [LB1067]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Karpisek, you're recognized to open on LB1067. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. LB1067 would give local communities the option of reducing the time between keno games to something between five and one minutes...five minutes and one minute. That is all this does. It moves the time down from five to one with the local option to do so. If a community decides to do nothing, that has keno, they can still...it will stay at five minutes. I don't know why the five minutes was put in when the keno legislation was done. But that's where it was set. Keno does a lot of things for local communities. A lot of communities buy fire trucks, police cars, all sorts of different things that they pick what they want it to go to. There is a committee amendment, Mr. President, and I will talk to that next. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. You've heard the opening to LB1067. As was noted, there is a General Affairs Committee amendment, AM1961. Senator Karpisek, you're recognized to open. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. The committee amendment moves the minimum time from one minute up to three minutes. So what we're talking about now is everyone that has keno games has to wait five minutes in between games; this would move that to three minutes, again, with a vote, a local vote. It's not going to move down at the state level. Anybody who doesn't do anything, it's going to stay at five minutes. Communities that think that they can benefit a little bit by moving it to three minutes will be able to do so. That is the extent of the bill, and I'd be glad to answer any questions. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. You've heard the opening of the General Affairs Committee amendment, AM1961, to LB1067. Seeing no...Senator Carlson. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I'd like to address a question to Senator Karpisek, if he would yield. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Carlson? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Senator Karpisek, what's the real purpose in doing this? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: The purpose is to try to give the communities a little more

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income, to speed the game up a little bit to play more games per hour. I would say, most of the time, the prime hours of playing keno are probably in the evening. A lot of people probably start at dinnertime, go out to eat, probably stay till 9:00 or 10:00. So there's not a whole bunch of time that people actually sit and...the majority of the time. So this would just allow more games to be played during the day. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Now I'm going to ask another question, and I'm not asking you to track down this information. If you'd help me, to tell how I could do it, I'd be happy to. But do you know where there would be records, rather accurate records, of the amount of money expended on keno and anything about the segments of the population and the differences perhaps in various income levels and how they tend to use keno as a game? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: Fiscal Office could get us a lot of numbers on what is spent during the year and in what communities. However, the breakup of maybe the income level, I don't know how we would be able to find that. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Okay. I'm going to inquire into that and see if that kind of information is available. The other question is this--and I'll just pick a city out of my district, Minden--how would Minden proceed if this LB1067 were to pass? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: Does Minden have keno now, Senator? [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: You know, I don't know that. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: Well, let's assume they do. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: So let's assume they do. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: Let's assume they do. Their city council could put an...or change their ordinance from five minutes to three minutes in between games of keno. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: If there was no action taken by some body that has jurisdiction in that area, then there would be no change from the current five minutes. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: That is correct. It would stay at five minutes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Okay. Thank you, Senator Karpisek. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: Thank you, Senator Carlson. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Carlson. Members requesting to speak on

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AM1961: Senator Christensen followed by Senator Brasch. Senator Christensen.  
[LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Would Senator Karpisek yield to a question, please? [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Christensen?  
[LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Would you say the actual reason to increase the time is to make more gambling dollars? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Okay. So what amount do you see being...how much more is going to be generated if people are doing this, or let's say they all do it? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: You know, we don't know, because we've never moved the number. But I don't think it's going to create a huge difference. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Well, I guess my concern...can you tell me, how are the profits split when we're talking about keno? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: The state gets a share. I don't have the numbers right in front of me. The keno operator gets a share; the city gets a share, or the governing body; the state gets a share. I'm sure that we'll have that in front of me here in a second. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Well, who...you know, if you do a casino, you always have...we know most of them are operated and owned by...either in Utah or Nevada, depending upon where you go, to the actual ownership of them. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Okay. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: So who owns it here? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Who owns it here? I'm sorry, I was kind of... [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: No, that's fine. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: ...listening half...14 percent goes to the operator of the game; 2 percent is tax; 10.5 percent to the city council and legal and auditor; and 73.5 percent to

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the prizes. And the Fiscal Office had thought about \$81 million would be brought in going to the additional wagering...going down those two minutes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Okay. Where would you say this \$81 million would be spent on if we didn't change the time? What would families spend this on? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Probably everything that they spend it on now, or more keno. I don't know. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Well, I don't know that they'd spend it on more keno unless we change this time, because...has the revenue been going up? Has it been flat, decreasing? Where have we been? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Going down, Senator, especially with the lottery that we have, all the other forms of gambling that have been voted on and in, by the people. The keno revenues have gone down. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: So, basically, we're...we doubt it would be spent more on kenos. The reason I'm asking where this all goes...so this is state run, so 14 percent goes to the local operator, or is there someone else getting a cut of this? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Fourteen percent goes to the local operator; 2 percent for tax; 10.5 percent to the governing body, the city or county; 73.5 percent to the prizes. This is not going to Vegas, if that's... [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: I wondered if there was other people inside the state that owned and benefited out of this, or if this was all strictly just city, the operator, taxes, and prizes. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: That is it. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Okay. So I guess my concern on this bill, Senator, comes in the fact that I feel like every time we expand gambling or that we allow them to gamble faster, there's going to be less money spent... [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: ...in our local communities, in our local businesses that are struggling in a lot of communities now. So do you see this as a problem? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: These are local businesses, Senator, that they're spending the money in. If we want to get into that sort of argument, we can talk about the money going across the river to the boats and everywhere else. I understand what you're

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saying. I don't see this as an expansion of gambling. I don't see how you can call it an expansion, but we can probably agree to disagree on that. It changes two minutes, two minutes of time. I don't think that this is going to affect everything all day. A lot of the communities, they don't play the game unless there's people there to play it. So, yes, they're going to, maybe, spend more money. According to the fiscal note, they're going to spend more money on this. My thought is, if they go in, there's no maximum bet. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Time, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Christensen. Senator Brasch. [LB1067]

SENATOR BRASCH: Thank you, Mr. President. And good morning, colleagues. I am opposed to LB1067 and AM1961. I am on the committee. I did express my concerns in the committee. During the testimony, one of my constituents came--he came on behalf of Gambling with the Good Life--and stated several very valid reasons and concerns. They are an employer, concerned about the economy, and more people are spending money on gambling rather than having funds to put back to their families. This increase in time...or by breaking it down to three minutes, that brings you 20 games per hour rather than the 12 games per hour. That's a 60 percent increase in gambling. And, you know, the position that, you know, gambling is not economic development. As far as bringing more money to the community, I would encourage more jobs to the community, not an increase in gambling. We need economic development, something that is not a gamble but is an ability to bring jobs, bring more people to move into our communities, to repopulate our communities. I do stand opposed to LB1067 and AM1961. Thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Brasch. Members requesting to speak on AM1961 are Senator Nelson followed by Senator Carlson and Senator Christensen. Senator Nelson. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I have some questions for Senator Karpisek, if he would yield. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Nelson? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you, Senator. I was looking at some figures and listening to what you had to say. I heard you give an \$81 million figure. Is that correct? [LB1067]

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SENATOR KARPISEK: \$81 million is what the Department of Revenue estimates that it will increase gross wagering. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: What is the total amount of gross wagering right now then, if you know, in the state of Nebraska? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Last year was \$196 million. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: \$196 million on keno alone. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: All right. Could you familiarize us a little bit with the keno operations around the state? I come from Omaha, of course. It's my understanding that there is one operator there with a central location and then a number of satellites. Are you familiar with how many sites there are in Omaha? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I don't know the number. We're going to find that out for you, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: All right. It's my understanding that there are over 100 satellites. And when you talk about a satellite or something from the central location, where are those operated? Are they in restaurants or bars? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Probably both. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: All right. You are not familiar with Omaha, then. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Not very much, no. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: What about your own district? What are the number of keno operations there? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Most of the towns in my district maybe have one or two different outlets. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Again, an outlet being...there's no entity there, no building solely dedicated then to keno. It's... [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: No, it's...Wilber is in the bowling alley. Some places are in a restaurant, bar. And there's 180 in Omaha, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: 180. Are you familiar with ownership and other operations around

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the state of Nebraska? Other large operations? Where would they be situated or located? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: A lot of them are like you said, there's one main place and then they satellite out. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: All right. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: And these all have to be Nebraska-owned businesses. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Okay. They have to have a license to operate... [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Correct. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: ...is that correct? And that revenue goes to the state of Nebraska? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Two percent of what is bet goes to the state of Nebraska. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Not for the license, is it? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: No, no, no, I'm sorry. No. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Okay. All right. What is the impetus then for increasing the number of times that you can play within an hour? Who is interested in this? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Who is? Well, the city of Omaha is interested in this. Of course, the keno operators are interested in this. A lot of the cities that I've spoken to are interested in it, a way to try to raise a little more money. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: You know, that's an interesting comment, because I talked to a representative from the city of Omaha, and they weren't sure at all whether there was going to be any increase, whether they were going to...if there were a vote of the people and they approved it, which I think is probable, that they weren't sure there would be any increase at all. Then what's the point? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Then what's the harm? Senator, one of the councilmen did come and testify in favor of the bill, from Omaha; that's all I can say. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: All right. There were a number of opponents, I believe. Do you...what is your recollection of what their major objection would have been then?

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[LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Well, their major objection is that they claim it's an expansion of gambling, which I absolutely disagree with. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Seeing the e-mails and the outright lies that I've seen on the e-mails, I would probably come testify against it too, because they can't tell the truth, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. I will continue to listen and hear further arguments here about whether this is truly an expansion of gambling, because I've always stood opposed to that. But I do thank you for your answers and for any additional information you may be able to provide. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Nelson. (Visitors introduced.) Continuing with floor discussion on AM1961 to LB1067, members requesting to speak are Senator Carlson followed by Senator Christensen, Senator Avery, and Senator Bloomfield. Senator Carlson. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I'd like to address some more questions to Senator Karpisek, if he would yield. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Carlson? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Now, Senator Karpisek, I'm going to disagree with you on a point here, because if the fiscal note would indicate a possibility of \$81 million of increased dollars coming into keno, I don't know how that's not an expansion. Would...how...why wouldn't you call that an expansion? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Because we're not creating a new game, we're not doing...would you consider...I don't want to ask you a question back, but if they come up with a different way to play pickle cards or a different way to do the lottery or the scratch-offs, is that an expansion or just a change in the game? [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Well, it would be to me, and we could probably disagree on that as well. I want to be fair on something, Senator Karpisek, because the amendment took

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it down from...or up from one minute to three minutes. I think these projections are based on one minute. And if it goes to three minutes instead of one, I would assume that the total amount of dollars that might be spent in this would be somewhat less than \$81 million. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I'm told by Fiscal Office that that does not change. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Oh, okay. Well, then my next point, I think, is...okay. By what you said, 2 percent of the \$81 million, if that's a correct figure, goes to the state of Nebraska in the form of tax revenue. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Correct. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: And that's about, based on those figures, about \$1.9 million. Now, if those dollars weren't spent on expanded keno, I think most of them would be spent on purchasing goods, probably, in Nebraska. If they were spent on groceries, there's no sales tax revenue from that. But assuming that they were spent on purchasing items, our state sales tax is 5.5 percent, and so if that \$81 million were spent on buying goods, that's \$4.6 million to the state instead of \$1.9 million. Which is a better deal for the state? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Well, I think one thing that you're missing is that 73.5 percent of that \$81 million comes back in prizes. So it's not the whole \$81 million that people are just losing out of their pocket. You're supposing that they're going to spend all that money, like you said, on something that's going to be sales-taxed, which...like you said, groceries and many other things that are exempted. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Okay, I understand that, that some of the payback...the payback goes to a few people. And some of that payback might be spent on purchasing goods. Now, on the other hand, I think you said that the city in which the game is played gets 10.5 percent of the revenue, is that correct? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: That is correct. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Which amounts to \$8 million for a city...well, for the cities. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Um-hum. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Whereas if that money were just spent in the city purchasing goods, it would be \$4.6 million. It's a better deal for the cities to gamble, I guess. [LB1067]

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SENATOR KARPISEK: It probably is, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: But I'm surprised that that kind of portion...of course, the other thing is 14 percent goes to the operator; that's a pretty hefty amount of money. What does the operator do when somebody wants to play keno? What physically is involved in providing so that a person can play keno? I don't even know. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Let's say that I'm the keno writer. You would bring your marked piece of paper to me. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: And I would enter the numbers, run a paper ticket and hand it back to you, start the game. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: So as an owner you've got to be there physically, or somebody you hire has to be there physically to provide a service to make this thing work... [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: ...and the 14 percent is going to pay for that labor. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Correct. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Okay. Well, thank you... [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: And you have to be licensed too; you have to pay for your licensing. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. And appreciate your answers, still looking at this in terms of what's really best for the people of Nebraska. And I'm having trouble supporting this bill. Thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Carlson. Senator Christensen. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Would Senator Karpisek yield? [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Christensen? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

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SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Senator, when money is spent in a community, they typically say it turns from three to seven times within the community. Do you know, is there any statistics on gambling revenue, how many times it turns in the community? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Not that I know, Senator. I would assume it's the same as anything else. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Well, the reason I say that: because every time you buy a good, that good has got to be replaced and remade and come back again. And that's why it turns so many times. And that's why the differential in the three to seven times makes a difference whether it's spent on a product that is used up and redone or if it's spent in a place that it stops. And potentially the money could stop with the owners and go into savings. And so I don't think it would be as good. But I just wondered if there's any statistics on that. But did I hear you say properly the first time that the keno wagering had went down? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: I guess I've got then the Nebraska Department of Revenue statistics here, and it says for 6/10 there was \$185,461,253 and for 2011 \$195,798,422, an increase of \$10 million. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I'm sorry, it has come up recently, but it's not where it was before it went down. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: So the history of it, you're saying, has been down; just recently we seen a turnaround? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Just...yes. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Okay. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Correct. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Well, that's good to know, I guess. I don't think that's good, because I think, you know, I disagree, but I think that money disappears from the full cycle in spending in the community that we would have if it was spent on local goods and products that way, for the family. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I would...I'd just like to say...but how do you know that, when you buy anything, that the profit, which could be a lot more than 14 percent, isn't

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ratholed into a savings account? [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: You don't. You just have to use the statistics that are given us, and we've got to assume that there's some truth to it, and, you know. And I can't say that the keno doesn't turn as many times in the community, or not. I just know it depends on the studies I've looked at that the different products purchased make a difference in how many times it turns in the community. And that's why I was asking that question and my concern comes in. You know, I guess, I sit here and got a concern, folks, that, you know, whether you look at it as expanded gambling or not, the intent here is to make more revenue. If we're making more revenue, there's more being bet, there's more being lost, and more is going to cities and things that way. It's just...something is increasing. If it's not expanded gambling, then there's an increase in gambling. So I don't know how you look at it. To me, whether we are expanding it, increasing it, to me, in my eyes, it's harmful to the communities, it's not the direction that I think we should be going as individuals in this state. And I do appreciate, Senator, that you did put the vote of the people in there. That puts a little more...Senator... [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: ...I guess I'd ask again: Is this the vote of the people or vote of the city council, to increase it? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: It would be a vote of the city council, which they could put it out to a vote of the people. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: So if they aren't required to go out, it's more likely just going to be automatically done, because when they make 10 percent, who isn't going to want to increase it? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPSEK: I would guess, if you were on a city council, you wouldn't want to. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Correct. I would not, and I would fight that, but I just...too often when people serve on boards, they look at the self-interest of the entity they sit on instead of in the views of the people. So that's why it's easy to vote for, whether it's schools, voting to increase...make a new building; whether it's a city, to get a new pool... [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Time, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: ...whether...thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Christensen. Senator Avery. [LB1067]

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SENATOR AVERY: Thank you, Mr. President. I told Senator Karpisek that I was not going to oppose this bill, and I'm going to keep my word. But I would like for him to yield a little time for a question. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Avery? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR AVERY: You've heard me ask this question before, and I think it's important that we get it on the record. Could you explain to us the public purpose that this bill serves? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: This bill is, hopefully, going to bring more money to cities or counties so they can buy the things that they have to buy, such as ambulances, police cars, or whatever they determine the money to go for. [LB1067]

SENATOR AVERY: And you...I heard your exchange with Senator Christensen about how the money is divided. Do you have any idea what the return rate is to the person who's playing the game? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: 73.5 percent. [LB1067]

SENATOR AVERY: 73. All right. So these are...the odds are a little bit better than they are in Vegas? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I don't know what the odds are in Vegas, Senator. I've never been there. [LB1067]

SENATOR AVERY: Thought you were an expert on gambling. (Laugh) [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: (Laugh) No, I'm not a very good gambler. [LB1067]

SENATOR AVERY: I don't have any more questions. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Avery. Senator Bloomfield. [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. I stay pretty neutral on gambling issues, and that's where I'm going to be on this. I had an individual come into my office to lobby me on this issue. And when he left, I thought he had quite

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possibly offered to do something that, to me, seemed to be inappropriate. I'm not going to throw any names out; I'm going to give a very brief description of what I heard him to say. And that was that if we could see our way clear to pass this, we could maybe have a fund-raiser for me up in my district from the keno operators. I at that point decided I...there was no way I was going to vote for this bill. I will be a red vote on it, not necessarily because it's wrong, just I don't like the way they went about it. Thank you. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Bloomfield. Additional members wishing to speak on AM1961 to LB1067, we have Senator McCoy followed by Senator Larson and Senator Fulton. Senator McCoy. [LB1067]

SENATOR McCOY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Would Senator Karpisek yield to a question, please? [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator McCoy? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR McCOY: Thank you, Senator. You and I have spoke about this legislation in the past. And I'd like to pick up on where you left off with some of the discussion with not only Senator Nelson but also Senator Christensen. Under your proposed amendment, or I should say the committee...General Affairs Committee amendment AM1961, for the record, are we talking about...let's talk about again what we're describing here. We're talking about local entities, or I should say local municipalities, being able to choose to drop this time limit down. It was my understanding in you and I's conversations about this in the past that this was going to be a vote of the people. But as I go through this amendment in greater detail this morning and in what you just commented to the two senators previous to me, it doesn't appear that that's what we're talking about. Can you give a little more detail to that, please? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: You have to have a vote of the people to get keno in, started. This bill does not say that it would be a vote of the people to lower the time; it would be the elected body. [LB1067]

SENATOR McCOY: Well, I find that puzzling, because I...it was my impression that that's what we were going to be talking about this morning, is this time limit changing was not up to a city council, another governing body, it would require a vote of the people in order to drop that time limit down. I have concerns about that, as that was my impression in previous conversations about this legislation, that that would be the purpose of this amendment and that would be the purpose of what we talked about here on the floor this morning. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

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PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Larson. [LB1067]

SENATOR LARSON: Thank you, Mr. President. As a member of the General Affairs Committee and somebody that heard these bills and someone that has many keno-operated businesses in my district--and I know what they provide for those small communities in the 40th District--I rise in support of LB1067 and AM1961. And on a few things that I'd just like to say, I think the most crucial point is that this will be a local option. And Senator McCoy brought up a point that, you know, maybe it should go to the entire vote of the people. I wouldn't necessarily be opposed to that, Senator McCoy, if it did have to. But at the same time, I think the people do elect city councilmembers, just as they elect us state senators, to deal with these decisions. So I have no problems with the amendment as it is but also wouldn't mind if that came on as well. I heard earlier in the arguments that by expanding this you're adding...essentially people are going to be spending more dollars into keno and spending less dollars in their local economies, therefore causing the state sales tax revenues to drop. And I just...that I'd have a question for Senator Karpisek, if he'd yield. [LB1067]

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Karpisek, would you yield to Senator Larson? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR LARSON: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. Yes, we did hear the argument earlier that this could possibly drop state sales tax revenues. Do you know, does the state provide any money to cities, in terms of buying ambulances, helping with their parks, roads, things of that nature? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: I think we took that all away last year when we took away aid to cities and counties. [LB1067]

SENATOR LARSON: I think you're right. We did take that away last year. So essentially it's my understanding that a lot of these keno dollars, from my towns that I talked to, a lot of this money does go to buying ambulances and helping with the parks and community projects of that nature. Is that your understanding? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: That is my understanding, Senator. [LB1067]

SENATOR LARSON: So even if we are cutting, you know, in theory, the sales tax revenue to the state, essentially I think that we will still be doing good, in the sense that the state isn't helping the cities anymore. In fact, we're making it harder on our cities and counties to fund things on the local level. Now, can this be another tool for them? Yes, because the state isn't giving them those tools currently. And that's something that I, you know, that...I did vote to cut the city and county aid last year, and I still think that was the right vote. But at the same time, when they come with something like this,

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saying, you know what, this can get us another ambulance in rural Nebraska or this can help buy another fire truck for our rural fire district, we still have to support and help our local economies in ways that the state is no longer doing. And I think this is a measure, not the silver bullet, not the magic answer, it's a answer and something that I think is very good. And I will continue to support LB1067 and AM1961 as is, and, hopefully, we can move forward. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH PRESIDING

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Larson. Senator Fulton, you are recognized. [LB1067]

SENATOR FULTON: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, good morning, soon to be good afternoon. I plan to speak on this item just this time. At least that's my plan for now. I do not support the bill, and I want to make known why, my rationale as to why. There was an issue before the voters in 2006--I think it was 2006--Initiative 421 or...it was an initiative to allow for video keno in the state of Nebraska. And that initiative was defeated, and it was defeated by a percentage of 61 to 39, thereabouts. Now, this is a different issue, I understand that, but stay with me in this argument that I'm making. The folks, the Nebraska voters, voted video keno down. There had to have been a reason why. Now, we are left to our own devices to ascertain as to why this was voted down, but certainly there was some judgment employed. And I think that all sides of this argument would be able to agree that that vote was indicative of Nebraskans' desire not to expand keno, at least in a video medium. Now I see AM1961, the committee amendment, which basically changes the "one" to "three," so not "less than one minute" but rather "not less than three minutes." Here again, there's some judgment ostensibly being employed by the committee. Why? It is because we recognize that games of chance have some addicting nature to them. I think that's the only logical reason why one would oppose on the ballot initiative in '06 and why there has been some judgment employed by the General Affairs Committee. And whether...that seems reasonable to me; whether one is for or against this, that seems reasonable. And so from my vantage, I don't have any ethical aversion to games of chance. But I do pay close attention to what voters have said and the judgment that is employed by voters when they speak. And this is why I have opposed these efforts to, pardon me for using the word, expand gambling. So that's ultimately why I'm going to vote against this. It seems we have something in place. I don't...I personally and I don't know that many...a number of my constituents have any ethical aversion to keno per se, but it seems we can leave well enough alone, because there is some judgment and recognition that with these games of chance come social ramifications. And judgment being what it is, we have something in place, we ought to leave status quo well enough. That's an explanation, my rationale, why I'm going to vote no on the bill. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Fulton. Senator Karpisek, you are recognized.

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[LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I'm having an amendment drawn up that would bring this to the vote of the people. Senator McCoy has said that that's what we talked about, and I apologize to him if there was some misunderstanding there. I'm certainly not trying to not do what we had talked about. So just to let everyone know, we're having that drawn up and we can talk about that. I guess my thought is that we have local elected leaders. And they also vote...the people vote to get the keno game in. But again, if that's what Senator McCoy thought we were doing...and again I apologize if I misstepped; I sure didn't mean to. I know that there's the argument about social ills that gambling causes, that two minutes causes. We can talk about all sorts of different social ills. We can talk about all sorts of different ways people blow their money. We can talk about illegal drugs. The list will go on and on and on. And I understand and I appreciate people who are antigambling. I respect their thought and their opinion. However, it doesn't seem reciprocal at all. We hear about how terrible gambling is. We hear about how it just strips people that can't afford it. It goes to everyone. At least this, keno, stays in the state of Nebraska. It goes back to the local community. The people have to be Nebraskans that own the keno games. This money stays here. It doesn't go across the border to Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, every state that touches our border that has gambling. It stays here. We can make an argument that it lowers taxes, I suppose, if we wanted to. There's all sorts of ways to look at this. I just think a two-minute lowering of the time is not the end of the world. Senator Nelson said that somebody told him he didn't think it would make any difference. Okay. It's just a way to try to get our local businesses, our local keno parlors, to try to keep up with people going to Iowa, playing the lottery, church bingo, whatever else you want to bring up that people gamble at, not to mention the illegal gambling that goes on in front of everyone's noses that nobody talks about. So I hope that everyone just thinks about it. I understand if you're against gambling, it's your morals; I understand. But to twist this into something that it really is not I don't think is smart to do. We're talking about two minutes. We're not talking about instant keno; we're not talking about casinos. These are local businesses doing business, giving back to the community, helping their community. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. Those still wishing to speak: Senators Ken Haar, Lambert, Krist, and Bloomfield. Senator Ken Haar, you are recognized. [LB1067]

SENATOR HAAR: Mr. President and members of the body, I won't take long, just say you'll see from my vote I will support LB1067 and AM1961. I believe, in this case, it's a matter of local control. So I would very much agree with what Senator Larson talked at length about. And this is to explain my vote: I think that local government is the place that this should be decided. Thank you very much. [LB1067]

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SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Haar. Senator Lambert, you're recognized.  
[LB1067]

SENATOR LAMBERT: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. I respect everyone's opinion on gambling, on keno. Several cities in my district have done a lot with keno revenue. The community I live in, we were able to build a nice senior and community center. Without keno funds, if not impossible, that would have been nearly impossible to do. We've been able to use it. No one asks when the citizens come in: Did you play keno; did you help pay for this? Everyone gets to use it. As we've mentioned before, communities have lost a lot of funds. Money is tight. This is a very important stream of revenue to make some improvements in your community: parks, swimming pools; we've all seen that happen. And one nice thing, I believe, is if you don't want to participate in it, you don't have to; if you don't want to pay this tax, you don't have to. You can stay home or you can play, but we all benefit from the advantages and the money that comes in and some of the things we're able to do for our community. And this is not a bill that's going to cut the keno games to three minutes; it's a bill that gives communities local control, if they choose to do that; it's still in the communities' hands. And that is why I support AM1961 and LB1067. Thank you. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Lambert. Senator Krist, you are recognized.  
[LB1067]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Nebraska and colleagues. I guess I made this statement several times on the mike in my time here. I am not a person who wants to see harm done. And I think that there's a reasonable amount of evidence that gambling, to the extent that it happens in Atlantic City and Las Vegas and even some of our bordering states, there are some woes that are created. The problem I have is with hypocrites. Senator Lambert just hit the nail on the head. Keno is okay at five minutes, because it buys us new police cars, and it buys us new ambulances, and it builds us new recreational centers, and it does so much good. So that's okay. But don't change it. Don't go to three minutes. What's going to happen if it goes to three minutes? Is there a whole new group of people who are going to find keno interesting? Seriously. Really? You think that's going to bring more people in the front door to the bar or the keno parlor or wherever? There might be more dollars spent, and there might be an issue. But you're not talking about expanding gambling here, so let's get off it. You know what I've told the people who continue...I am the Vice Chair of the General Affairs Committee, the alcohol and sin committee, and I've got to tell you, I have told the lobbyists who come time and time and time again and send me e-mails, who talk about don't change keno: Keno is not a subject I will even talk about anymore, because it reminds me of a hypocrite. We have keno; let's deal with keno. Now, the reality of the situation is some places in Nebraska are not even going to be able to increase their times to three minutes; they don't have the capability. There aren't very many places in the state that can go to one minute between games; it's a technical issue. So if the local

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control who, by the way, you've taken all...you, we...we have taken all the money away from them over the past several years and told them to tighten their belts, they can do better at tightening their belts. We're taking the local control issue and saying, if you can go to three and you can manage the issues, do it. But, no, that's expanded gambling. Seriously. It's a hypocrite who looks in the mirror and says, thank you for the police car but, boy, don't give me any more keno parlors. It's a hypocrite who says, I'm going to go into that center that's been built with that money and says...and doesn't at least acknowledge the fact that it came from a legal form of gambling in the state today. I'm sure I'm going to get lots of e-mails. But the point is, don't talk to me about keno. I believe that three minutes is sustainable, supportable, is not an expansion of gambling in this state, and that we should vote for AM1961 and LB1067 as it stands. But if it takes putting it up for a public vote to pass this forward and the amendment that's going to show up from our committee, from Senator Karpisek, if that's going to make it more palatable, hypocrites, then let's do that. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Krist. Senator Bloomfield, you're recognized. [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. I go back again to the process in which this is being done. And I'd like to ask Senator Karpisek a question or two, if I could. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Senator Karpisek, will you yield? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Yes, I will. [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. Senator Krist just alluded to it. Is it conceivable that we could technically go to the one minute that they ask for? [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: The... [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: The one-minute turnover that is in... [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: In the original bill? [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: ...LB1067. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: A lot of the operators wouldn't be able to run it that fast. [LB1067]

SENATOR BLOOMFIELD: Okay. So to me, that says that these people have come in trying to game the system, asking for one, knowing full well they can't get there, in

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hopes that we would settle and give them three. Thank you, Senator Karpisek. I go back to the same issue. They are playing to get down to three; they're not playing by the rules; and they really don't care how they get there, as long as they get there. Thank you. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Bloomfield. Mr. Clerk for items. [LB1067]

CLERK: Mr. President, just very quickly, Appropriations Committee will meet underneath the north balcony at 11:45. Appropriations Committee, 11:45, north balcony.

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Speaker for an announcement.

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I just wanted to take an opportunity and kind of map out for you what next week is going to look like on the floor, for your benefit and planning purposes. On Monday, I anticipate, obviously, we'll start at 10:00. We are going to continue on LB1067, the keno bill, until noon. And we're going to come back in Monday afternoon at 1:30 with some more General File. And the agenda that you see for Monday will have some new bills and divisions on it, so you'll want to kind of look through those and make sure you're ready for that. We're going to continue with General File on Tuesday again, work in the morning at 9:00, and then we'll work in the afternoon till at least 5:00. On Wednesday we're going to take up the child welfare division on Select File in the morning, and we're going to back that up with some General File after that. One of the bills you're going to see on General File will relate to the State Foster Care Review Board. That will come from Senator Krist. And then on Thursday of next week, in the morning, we've got another hour and a half or so of some Final Reading. And then we're going to do some Select File on Thursday. That's what it looks like right now. I thought that would help you kind of plan your week. I want to remind you that these bills on Select File, if you have one that's on Select File, please make sure you're working to get your amendments ready. I really prefer to have those amendments filed the night before, so that the members can see the changes in the Journal before we actually get on the floor. So to the extent possible, if you've got a bill on General File, please help us accommodate the rest of your colleagues so that they can see what you're proposing. Thank you very much.

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Speaker Flood. Senator Christensen, you're recognized; this is your third time. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm sorry Senator Krist walked out. I told him I was going to disagree with him, but...oh, he's here, good. I want to make a point that either I can't support Husker basketball or I'm a hypocrite, with that logic. The Bob Devaney Sports Center was built with smoking funds; I don't smoke; I didn't pay for any; and now I can't go to the games without being a hypocrite. I disagree with that. There's a lot of people that don't pay for amenities in cities but still use them. I don't

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think that's a fair analogy. But, you know, it is...this just comes down to where you stand, folks, whether you like keno, don't like keno, like gambling, don't like gambling; there are all different forms. I don't have a problem that Senator Karpisek brought this bill. I have the rights to bring a bill on anything, and we have the rights to talk on anything. So, you know, that's just the situation we're in. And, you know, I could...I had thought of some other examples to use on being a hypocrite, but I thought that Bob Devaney was a very good one and wanted to address that. But, you know, whether you look at it as expanding gambling or you look at it as just changing the time and increasing the amount of money wagered, if it wasn't going to increase the amount of money gambled, the bill wouldn't have been brought forward. Let's be honest. And it may not be a new type or style of gambling, but it is still increasing the frequency, increasing the amount that will be waged and the amount that will be lost and the amount that will be taken away from your local communities, because I do not believe it will turn over as many times in your community coming off of keno winnings or the business owners' winnings. And I guess, you know...and if we want to make analogies, maybe we don't need the city sales tax increase bill if we're going to do this, because they can increase the revenue right here 10 percent. Why would they want a half of a percent? You know, where do we want to make these analogies? We can all make bad ones; we can all make good ones. We've all got to come down with the decisions at the end on them. So it's unfortunate. We'll have a lot of fun discussing this, and then we'll get to vote and go on, and that's just the way the process works. And, again, I stand opposed to LB1067. I would definitely vote for the amendment, if he brings it; put it to the vote of the people, because I think that's a far better place than the vote of the city council, because they'd benefit out of it directly. The people may or may not benefit out of it. It's total different. You need to put the votes to the lowest place possible, and so I would definitely support that amendment if it comes. But I'm not in support of LB1067 at the current form that it's in, and I hope it does fail. But at the same time, we'll have plenty of time to think about it over the weekend, I'm sure, because it looks like we're probably going to talk this one out till 12:00 today and... [LB1067]

SPEAKER FLOOD PRESIDING

SPEAKER FLOOD: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN: ...and be back on it a little bit next week. So I thank you, colleagues, for listening to me, letting me vent my side of opposition and my concern of increasing the amount of gambling that will be done with this bill, the increased amount of losses incurred to the general public. And I understand that there's amenities that the cities provide us, and I appreciate it. Some of it's from tax dollars; some of it's from gambling dollars. That's just the way it is. I appreciate the Bob Devaney Sports Center that was paid for by the smokers. And I'm glad they paid for that for the university to have and for this state to use. And that was one time that my...that tax dollar didn't affect me, but I don't feel like a hypocrite going in and using it. Thank you, Mr.

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President. [LB1067]

SPEAKER FLOOD: Thank you, Senator Christensen. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR402. Continuing with discussion, Senator Lautenbaugh, you are recognized. [LB1067 LR402]

SENATOR LAUTENBAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Just for clarity's sake, I personally loathe keno. I think it's the biggest sucker bet out there, and I can't imagine why anyone would play it, and I don't. I also don't run around and stop people from playing it because that's my opinion. I let them have theirs. But I received an e-mail yesterday urging action on this. I'll paraphrase a bit. Dear concerned citizen...that's assuming a lot this late in the week, but...Dear concerned citizen: Once again the greedy gambling interests have introduced bills to expand gambling in Nebraska. Skipping a bit to the portion about this bill: LB1067 would allow faster keno times, from five minutes per game down to three minutes per game. This is a 60 percent increase to 20 games per hour, as opposed to the previous 12. The faster you play, the faster you lose your money. This is another attempt by the gambling interests to line their own pockets. And we hate that in America, by the way. People, stop lining your own pockets. Keno operators received a 13 percent cut of the profits in 2011, which amounted to \$25,180,895. The cities that bear the burden of gambling's negative effects averaged 8.5 percent of that take. The biggest losers are small businesses and families. This is a bad bill for many reasons. So there you have it. And this is an e-mail from what I would call a frequent e-mailer, occasional pie deliverer but frequent e-mailer. And it's a bad bill, from what I just read in the e-mail. Apparently it's a very bad bill. So if you're of a mind to listen to this, I don't think you have any choice as to what your vote should be. However, if you are at long last willing to recognize that everything isn't black and white, and sometimes even this e-mailer may err on the side of--I don't want to say extremism but I don't have anything else, so there you go--then you may need to stray from your prior patterns and do something different. I don't know what to tell you to do; I'm just sharing you the e-mail. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH PRESIDING

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Lautenbaugh. Senator Carlson, you're recognized, and this is your third time. [LB1067]

SENATOR CARLSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. First of all, I'll repeat a statement that Senator Lautenbaugh just made that everything isn't black and white. I agree with that. Some things are black and white, but not everything is. I learned from a former senator once in a while, if you want to get somebody's attention, you do it this way: Senator Krist, Senator Krist, Senator Krist. I don't appreciate being referred to as a hypocrite. However, I know that I'm free to express myself on this floor in any way I choose, and so are you. Don't tell me not to talk about

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keno. I'll talk about keno if I want to. Don't indicate I shouldn't talk anymore about gambling; I will talk about gambling if I want to. If I think that this bill is an expansion of gambling, I'll call it that. If I think this bill is an increase in taxes, I'll refer to it that way. If I think a bill like this takes away dollars from the essentials that families should purchase, I'll indicate that. And I won't be intimidated by someone who's tired of the discussion we're having. And I would recommend the rest of you follow that suit as well. We have the freedom on this floor to discuss what we want to discuss, in a way that we want to discuss it. It should be civil, and I'm struggling. I'll try to remain as civil as I can be. I am opposed to LB1067; I'm opposed to the amendment. But I appreciate the discussion. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Carlson. Members wishing to speak: Senators Karpisek, Mello, Smith, and Lautenbaugh. Senator Karpisek, you're recognized. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. And I agree with Senator Carlson. We can talk about whatever we want. And this is one of those subjects that gets everybody's blood pumping. There's a lot of them that come that do that. And I don't always like to have to talk about them, but it seems like someone always has to bring some of those that we get to talk about too. Senator Christensen and I were talking off-mike, and I think he agreed with me that he should be for gambling, because he doesn't have to participate in it but he gets the benefit of it. He can go to the Bob Devaney Sports Center and not smoke. He can drive on some streets or go to something in his hometown that might have been bought with keno money, maybe a park. I don't know. It's a voluntary tax, if you want to call it a tax. But it's voluntary. If you don't want to do it, don't do it. If you don't want to be around people doing it, don't go around them. But it does help communities. And I'll be honest, I'm not crazy about having to bring an amendment that puts it to a vote of the people. However, if that's what we have to do, that's fine; we'll do that. And especially, as I said before, Senator McCoy was under the impression that's what we had talked about, and he may be...that was his impression, not mine, but that's okay; we're trying to work it out. And I'm trying to be civil, because not always on this floor am I. Speaking of that, no one tried to game this system. They came with one minute because maybe someday they can get down to one minute. They also came with one minute because once they can do that, you see the stir that this has caused, do they want to go through it again, to try to get lower? Of course not. And if anybody in this body thinks that no one else comes with a bigger or lower number than they're expecting or going to settle on, you're not being honest. We all know that people bring bills, if they want \$1 million, they'll put in for \$5 million. That's the way things work, whether it's supposed to or not. But the intention of this bill when I introduced it was not to game any of you on this floor. If I want to do that, I will, and you'll see it coming a mile away. I am not that kind of person. I would love to go with a minute. I'll settle for three; I'll take what I can get. And so will everyone else in here when we negotiate a bill. It's what negotiation is about. We can agree to

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disagree again on gambling. I can't tell you how much I respect Senator Carlson. We disagree on this issue. He's got his reasons; I've got mine. But there's not too many people in this world that I think more of, because he stands firm on what he believes. And I try to do the same. And it's okay to disagree. It's why we're here. To think that a local body, though, won't vote for what their constituents want is a little bit absurd. If we always want to do what the lowest common denominator of voters wants to do... [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: One minute. [LB1067]

SENATOR KARPISEK: ...then why don't we send everything out of here to a vote of the people? I bet there's a lot of votes that happen that might be different if we send it out to a vote of the people. And I bet you some of the people in here wouldn't like that, because the people out there might tell them that they're not quite living in the same reality that they are. So when we think about what the people want and how we vote, let's think about that, and let's give our elected officials at the county and city levels a little bit of credit and that they'll do the right thing for their community. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB1067]

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Senator Karpisek. Mr. Clerk. [LB1067]

CLERK: I have items, Mr. President. The bills read on Final Reading this morning were presented to the Governor at 10:53 a.m. (re: LB216, LB216A, LB427, LB459, LB507, LB612, LB269, LB370, LB470, LB498, LB646, LB677, LB714, LB725, LB770, LB771, LB800, LB828, LB836, LB852, LB853, LB854, LB873, LB879, LB886, LB890, LB911, LB942, LB1043, and LB1118). The constitutional amendment read on Final Reading was presented to the Secretary of State at 10:55 (re: LR19CA). New A bill: Senator Fischer offers LB751A. (Read by title for the first time.) Committee reports: Health and Human Services reports LB900 to General File with amendments; LB1148, General File with amendments; those signed by Senator Campbell. Agriculture Committee, chaired by Senator Carlson, reports LB905 to General File with amendments. Senator Christensen has new resolutions: LR437, LR438, and LR439; Senator Bloomfield, LR440, LR441, and LR442. All of those resolutions will be laid over at this time. Amendments to be printed: to LB1079, Senator Mello; Senator McCoy, to LB806; Senator Harms, to LB806; Senator Nelson, to LB806; Senator Avery, to LB806; Senator Smith, to LB806; Senator Fulton, to LB806; and Senator Karpisek, to LB1067. (See also amendment to LB806 by Senator Christensen and amendment to LB473 by Senator Harr.) (Legislative Journal pages 734-745.) [LB216 LB216A LB427 LB459 LB507 LB612 LB269 LB370 LB470 LB498 LB646 LB677 LB714 LB725 LB770 LB771 LB800 LB828 LB836 LB852 LB853 LB854 LB873 LB879 LB886 LB890 LB911 LB942 LB1043 LB1118 LR19CA LB751A LB900 LB1148 LB905 LR437 LR438 LR439 LR440 LR441 LR442 LB1079 LB806 LB1067 LB473]

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Mr. President, priority motion: Senator Sullivan would move to adjourn the body until Monday morning, March 5, at 10:00 a.m.

SENATOR COASH: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Members, you've heard the motion to adjourn until Monday, March 5, 10:00 a.m. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed, nay. We are adjourned.