

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

[LB14 LB46 LB46A LB75 LB78 LB140 LB210 LB274 LB289 LB543 LB641 LR47 LR50  
LR54 LR55]

SPEAKER SCHEER PRESIDING

SPEAKER SCHEER: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the thirty-ninth day of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain today is Senator Kolowski. Please rise.

SENATOR KOLOWSKI: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you very much, Senator Kolowski. I call to order the thirty-ninth day of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Mr. Clerk, please record.

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

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

CLERK: I have no corrections.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, one item: the Agriculture Committee, chaired by Senator Brasch, reports LB274 to General File with committee amendments attached. That is all that I have. (Legislative Journal page 587.) [LB274]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. For what purpose do you rise, Senator Krist?

SENATOR KRIST: Point of privilege, please.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Please continue.

SENATOR KRIST: Members...thank you, Mr. Speaker, and colleagues; good morning, Nebraska. Members, I will draw your attention to the second page of our agenda today, LR50, and it's a resolution recognizing March, 2017, as a Problem Gambling Awareness month in

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

Nebraska. I have done this just about every year I have been here; carried a bill that enabled the Nebraska Problem Gamblers Assistance Program to be separate and distinct and that their mission would be to help with the issues connected with gambling. No matter which side of the issue you are on, we all know that there are some addictive behaviors and that those behaviors result in some very bad things happening to families when they are not corrected. This group of people, the Nebraska Problem Gamblers Assistance Program, their executive director, David Geier, and the chair of the committee, Mark Canada, do some fantastic work. Those efforts in terms of funding those preventive programs and rehabilitative programs are expanding throughout the state. And even though we don't see a casino here with a benefit of the money that might come in, if you feel that way or if you don't, makes no difference, we still have those issues that are created from a visit to Las Vegas, on-line gambling, as well as, in my neck of the woods, simply going over to Council Bluffs. So what I would like to do is recognize those folks today with this resolution, and I would ask for a round of applause for what they have done.  
[LR50]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Krist. Senator Howard, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HOWARD: I rise for a point of personal privilege.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Please continue.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, this speech is not for you, so if you need to go get coffee or check the news on your laptop, that is absolutely fine. This is for our second house. I would like to apologize to you, my fellow Nebraskans. There are several values that this Legislature holds dear: fairness, unfettered debate, collegiality, transparency. The requirement that every bill have a public hearing has been in place during the entire history of the Unicameral. Nebraskans, yesterday, in a committee I serve on, we failed to ensure a proper public hearing was held. I want to thank the 16 or so testifiers we were able to hear in the morning and apologize to the rest of you. I am grateful that you came to speak with us, and I am sorry you had to stand because there were no more seats in the audience, and some of you stood for more than an hour to share your experience with us for just three minutes and we didn't give you the opportunity. I want you to know that I appreciate that you took the time out of your day, away from your families, away from your jobs to come speak with us. And I am sorry that we didn't hear from all of you. Members of the committee got packets in our office yesterday with the written testimony of those who did not get to go on the record. Last count, it was about 24 packets. Know that I am committed to reading those and learning about your experience, even though we did not get a chance to do so face to face yesterday. And if any of you would like to meet with me personally, go ahead and contact my office. I will make the time. There is no

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

celebration so big that it should keep us from doing the work that George Norris dreamed of and that Nebraskans deserve. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Howard. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR47. Mr. Clerk, first item. [LR47]

CLERK: Mr. President, LB46A on General File. (Read title.) Introduced on January 24; considered on Tuesday of this week. At that time Senator Watermeier presented his A bill. Senator Chambers moved to indefinitely postpone. That motion is pending. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Watermeier, would you like to refresh us on LB46A, please? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President; good morning, Nebraska. Just to remind everybody, we passed LB46 on Tuesday. Directly before the noon hour, we introduced LB46A, which is just the appropriations bill. This is a little unusual in this bill because it's all Cash Funds. Nothing will come out of General Funds. So this A bill will not hold this bill up in process like many other A bills will. So the A bill for LB46 would appropriate \$9,631 from the Motor Vehicles Cash Fund to the Department of Motor Vehicles to modify the vehicle titling and registration and plate management computer systems to accommodate the new license plate. Behind that, you will look on the floor from Senator Chambers is a motion to indefinitely postpone, which I will be opposed to. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Senator Chambers, if you would like to refresh us on your floor motion, MO43. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is not a time to speak, but just to refresh? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Yes, sir. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. The motion that I have is to indefinitely postpone the bill which would kill it. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Krist, you are first in the queue. Perhaps that was for his point of privilege. Senator, are you wishing to speak on this? Okay, we will wait. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Speaker. And, again, good morning, colleagues; good morning, Nebraska. Excuse my tardiness to the mike. I appreciate your indulgence. As I've said before on this bill which is a continuation of this bill, the A bill, I believe that we need to start being judicious about the special interest plates. I believe that the special interest plates, we need to be cognizant that there is not a political statement or an insightful statement going out on these plates; just as the Department of Motor Vehicles weeds through the actual messages that are on the plates, I think it is our responsibility to make sure that the language that actually promotes the plate, as in choose life, pro choice, pro death penalty, those kinds of things need to be watched very carefully. And I believe if this bill is not necessarily stopped with the A bill here, which it would be if we voted it down, that continuous debate, extended debate will probably happen on Select and on Final Reading. I feel that strongly about the issue. I wanted, once again, to put it on the record, and for sure this is the last time I speak on this today, and I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Pansing Brooks if she would like to have it. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Pansing Brooks, 3:05. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: I'm waiving right now. Thank you. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks. Next in the queue, Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, many things happen in this country that are written about in the news. And the latest one kind of touches on what we have been told about this license plate where people want to equate this message somehow with freedom of speech. It had been said during one of the debate sessions that that freedom of speech is not absolute. For example, you cannot shout "fire" in a crowded theater. And it also holds true that a person who is being considered for appointment to a very high federal office, such as Attorney General, is not free to lie. When Sessions, who did face opposition because of his patently and blatantly racist comments, lied, when he was asked during that hearing for his consideration for that position of U.S. Attorney General, whether anybody connected with the Trump campaign had talked to...had had communication with anyone affiliated...did they contact the Russians? Did anyone affiliated with the campaign have such contact? Sessions lied through his teeth, said he wasn't aware of that ever having happened when he himself had talked to them. When the truth came out, it kind of underscored what Chaucer had written in one of his works "murder will out." Jesus had said--what you whisper in the closet is going to be shouted from the housetops. So when Jeffrey Chaucer, whose initials are J.C., and Jesus Christ, whose initials are J.C., arrive at the same conclusion, it should not surprise anybody. So people are calling for everything, with reference to Sessions, for recusal from certain considerations by the Justice Department of activities related to this lying that he engaged

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

in to his resignation. So he issued a statement which said, quote, I never met with any Russian officials to discuss issues of the campaign. I have no idea what this allegation is about. It is false. Reminded me of something Bill Clinton said--I never had sex with that woman; and he was impeached. Sessions is a liar. And there are things that filter down to the state level. And I'm going to discuss these license plates, my motion to kill the A bill, and to point out that even if you kill it, there is a way out for Senator Watermeier's bill. There was a matter before the...I've got to call it by its name, not what I want to call it, the Government Committee to allow felons to vote. And of all people, the Chairperson, Senator John Murante, voted against advancing the bill saying the integrity of elections needs to be protected. Then a direct quote following that paragraph: I can't support this bill unless I believe that the public confidence in our election integrity is helped by it, unquote, Murante said. I wish he would just come clean on having... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...called that commissioner a liar at a hearing, and will not be man enough to stand up and acknowledge it and apologize to that woman as openly and notoriously as he called her a liar. So integrity should not come out of his mouth. How can people believe that there is integrity in our process when the chairman of a committee will falsely accuse a person in an open hearing of lying, making a patently false statement? And all he had to do was ask Senator Vargas, as I did, and he would have found out that what he said was false. But he didn't do that. And he still sits there pompously as a chairman of a committee talking about integrity of the election process when there is a lack of integrity in the chairman of the committee that hears such bills. I'm going to deal with these issues when they come before us. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: And you are next in the queue if you would like to continue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Now I would like to ask Senator Watermeier a question if he is in the house. For those who don't see, Senator Watermeier is making his way to his seat. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Watermeier, would you please yield? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Watermeier, I heard that it was stated by you or somebody on KFAB that this license plate will carry a picture of two little children. Is that true or false? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: It's potentially what it could. There's a...I have a potential plate of what the plate could look like. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you got that notion from another of these kinds of plates which would already exist in some other state? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: That is correct. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And what would the little children look like? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Oh, it's just a face...pencil drawing, I would call it like a pencil drawing with a face, eye, and nose, and it smiles. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. This is an antiabortion plate. It is the way the media have characterized it. Senator Watermeier has acknowledged it. And now the children are being utilized and exploited to push a bogus idea. Senator "Wise Heart" said that she would support this bill because of the voluntary nature of it. But I think she did not give consideration to the fact that this is a bill officially put out by the state. If these people want the plate, let them circulate whatever they have to do and get the number of people who are devoted or who pledged themselves to pay for it. Then it can be stated that the law allows any group, if they get enough people who are willing to buy that plate, to have a plate put out. This one would be done by the state. It's not something that people have volunteered to do who hold this particular political view. If this bill, the A bill, were killed, and the only amount that is available...I meant that's required to be appropriated by it is less than \$10,000, the Governor could order his people to just go ahead and pay for the plate, carry out the law and they'd do it. He and Lieutenant Governor Foley are for this bill. I think Lieutenant Governor Foley may have even testified for it. And that's why I appreciate the fact that he is not sitting in the chair while this bill, which he has supported, and it's blatantly and patently political, I appreciate the fact that he's not presiding and I am sure he would have considered the possibility of my raising that question. The Attorney General lied. I had seen a headline in the paper which says Trump aide lied about contact with Russia. And then I looked at the date and that date was February 11. So it couldn't be talking about the Attorney General where they just found out he lied. And lo and

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

behold, it is that General Flynn. He lied and he had to quit. But the Attorney General is going to try to hang on. That so-called President has infected the people around him in the same way that I think this pro-life lobby has infected the people who call themselves pro life. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They will say practically anything. They will do practically anything. Metaphorically speaking, they will consume their own children, meaning pro-life senators who don't cross every "T" and dot every "I" in the way that they dictate. And that's what happens when you give a little bit of power to people who don't know how to use it. Not only is a little learning a dangerous thing, a little power is a dangerous thing. That's why this particular plate is before us today. And to try to counteract that, I intend to fight it under the rules; unlike the speaker, I don't have the power to breach the rules on whim. I will stay within the rules that you all have adopted...for everybody except the Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, this is your third time. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And don't despair, brothers and sisters, I have other motions and amendments that will allow me to take the time on this bill that I said I was going to take. I wrote a letter to, at the time, Donald Trump, who was a candidate for President, the letter is dated February 18, 2016, and I overnighted it to make sure that he'd get it before certain things were done. Let me give you the date of this...that's the date of an article. But anyway, it was sent to Mr. Trump, and I started by sending an invitation I had gotten from Mr. Trump's son to come to some function they were going to have in Omaha in April, 2007. I don't know why they sent it to me, but it was a personal invitation with a ticket, and I pointed out that his son and I go way back, maybe not as far back as he and that young guy he was talking to about groping women, but nevertheless, it put me in a position to feel confident in writing to him. And this letter of invite to me was signed by Donald Trump, and under his name--real estate billionaire. Well, I pointed out to him that before he had been selected by the "Repelican" Party as their nominee, I self-appointed myself his campaign manager in Nebraska, not that I agreed with him, that I was unapologetically in favor of Hillary Clinton, but if there's going to be somebody she was running against, and you can see that I miscalculated, I would rather it be somebody that she had a much better chance of beating than those other people. So I was encouraging him to stay the course. And there are a couple of points I am going to read from in this letter because I think he and I see eye to eye. I laid out what I called the "Trump Theorems." There are three of them. And he has acted on all of them. Nobody has so designated them...and this was the introductory paragraph on page three of that letter: People have heard...the subhead: Trump's Three Theorems of Political Expediency. People have heard of Einstein's theory of relativity, Newton's laws of

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

gravity and motion, Occam's razor, and Machiavelli's The Prince, but this is the first time Trump's Theorems will have seen the light of day. I doubt that you yourself have formulated them in the manner that follows. Having carefully followed and analyzed your words and actions to the extent that such things are susceptible of analysis and formulation, I have undertaken the task. I don't know whether you arrived at these, "truths", theorems through study and conscious thought or if they just came to you unbidden like photosynthesis or in the way that water flows down hill and seeks its level. In a nutshell, here is the essence of each. First theorem--fool all. Second theorem--lie, dumb down. Third theorem--promise them the world. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then there are three playbooks. Each theorem follows the playbook of a well-known personage. Abraham Lincoln's playbook; Hitler's playbook--"Mein Kampf"; and Satan's playbook. And because I am going to run out of time on this particular time to speak, I am not going to go into the theorems because they should be presented without interruption. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Chambers, no one else wishing to speak, you are welcome to close on your motion. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And I want to thank my colleagues for giving me all of this time, and I am going to take more as I said. The first theorem from Abraham Lincoln's playbook--Honest Abe famously said: "It is true that you may fool all the people some of the time. You can even fool some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all of the people all the time." "The supporters comprising your base fit within the second clause-- You can fool some of the people all of the time--and you have done so and are doing so masterfully. Regardless of what you say or do, no matter how outlandish, preposterous, untrue, or unintelligible, your base unthinkingly and uncritically remains steadfastly with you. Fool all has been achieved. Second theorem from Hitler's playbook--All propaganda has to be popular and has to adapt its spiritual level to the perception of the least intelligent of those towards whom it intends to direct itself. The great masses of the people will more easily fall victims to a big lie than to a small one." You know, he's the biggest liar whoever sat in the White House. "In sum, tell big lies and appeal to the least intelligent. You once declared that you, quote, love uneducated people, unquote. Did you by chance have your second theorem in mind? As king of hyperbole and the superlative, you have regularly unleashed some whoppers which your base thrives on like a hungry lion devouring red meat. A subtheorem might be--If you're going to strike out, do so swinging for the fences rather than trying to bunt. For the record, this is not to assert that you are a Nazi or that your ideology is Naziism, although some have made such an allegation. My point is merely to show the similarity between your approach and Hitler's is

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

inescapable. Examples: promise everything to everybody at a cost to nobody." Remember, this is before he got elected. "Number two: The U.S. can sustain itself as a self-contained economic island on this planet. Number three: reopen obsolete, rust belt 'manufactories' to produce goods for sale only on the U.S. market and give millions of good, high-wage jobs to everybody who wants one, and there's no reason to raise the minimum wage, which is too high anyway. Four: never detail anything is to be...how anything is to be accomplished; it simply will be, period." And that is what he does--no details; it's going to stop, right now; it's going to be this, right now. He pays attention. He and I might be kindred spirits. We're opposite sides of the same coin. He lies and I tell the truth. I'm the head; he's the tail. Well, you know, if you took the T off Trump, it would be rump. Where is the rump found? Where the tail is. All right, number five: "Don't mention Congress because you will do all of these fantastical things yourself." Theme song of the second theorem: "I fling untruths into the air; they fall to earth I know not where, and furthermore, I do not care. All in war and politics is fair." And finally, "In the fairy tale, Rumpelstiltskin was a deformed dwarf who could spin straw into gold. Using that paradigm, you could be dubbed 'Trumpelstiltskin' due to your ability to... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to spin a glaring untruth into an authoritative sounding assertion of incontrovertible fact. Lying and dumbing down have been achieved by you; again, in a masterful manner with your base." Members of the Legislature, I am showing how wide the field is that these license plates cover. And I'm going to tie all this in together, as lawyers say, when an objection is made, that's what's being said is not relevant. Thank you, Mr. President. I will ask for a call of the house. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There has been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor please vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: 23 ayes, 2 nays to place the house under call. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. Those unexcused senators outside the Chamber please return to the Chamber and record your presence. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. The house is under call. Senators Bolz, Stinner, Pansing Brooks, Vargas, Wishart...thank you...Lindstrom, Riepe, Harr, please return to the floor, the house is under call. Senator Vargas, Senator Lindstrom, Senator Harr, please return to the floor. The house is under call. They are all accounted for. Did you say roll call, Senator? Regular order? Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 588.) 1 aye, 30 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to indefinitely postpone. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: The motion fails. I raise the call. Mr. Clerk, for a motion. [LB46A]

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may read a couple of things. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Certainly. [LB46A]

CLERK: Thank you. Mr. President, a few items: hearing notices from the Education and the Transportation Committee. New resolutions: LR54 from Senator Quick, and Senator Hilkemann offers LR55; those will both be laid over. Confirmation report from the Transportation Committee; and the Transportation Committee chaired by Senator Friesen reports LB78 to General File with amendments. (Legislative Journal pages 589-591.) [LB46A LR54 LR55 LB78]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk for a motion. [LB46A]

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken with respect to the indefinite postponement of LB46A. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, you are welcome to open. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I listened carefully to what Senator Howard said this morning. And it goes right in line with the way this session has gone. Disrespect for the public; all they're doing all this yakety-yakking about the public being the second house. Senator Murante was at a hearing, and one lady came to my office yesterday and she was at that hearing when he was rolling his eyes. She said...it's on this license plate, she said she could understand that when they were listening to people give testimony that they didn't agree with on the committee that a person might be upset, but for one of the committee members to obviously roll his eyes was very unsettling. And then they saw how the bill was kicked out of there right away and that told them something about how this Legislature operates. When I wanted to adjourn the other day after the interpretive reading dealing with Chief Standing Bear by Senator Pansing Brooks and Senator Brewer, I made the motion. Afterward I explained why. I thought people would be sensitive enough to understand why. That was a solemn, somber situation. Except for three people back there with Senator Larson laughing and talking that people who were watching saw and they were offended because from the camera angle they thought they were right behind Senator Brewer. And they said that

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

detracted from the whole thing. And what's the matter with those people down there? Why would they even allow this reading to occur if they had so little respect for not only the subject matter, but their colleagues who were carrying it out? I suppose those people were like me in attributing too much sensitivity to the members in this body. As it turned out, something that has great meaning to a lot of us was besmirched, profaned, and handled with great disrespect. People who called me said they understood right away when they heard the motion to adjourn was read, and they thought it would be accepted. And then when the thunderous outcry of "no" came, they thought that was a second showing of contempt for Native Americans, an endorsement of the way Native Americans have been mistreated. So you all think that what happens in this room is the whole world. As Dr. Johnson had said...this Dr. Johnson was the famous British writer, social critic, essayist, that you have several fools sitting together in a coffee house and they are all beating their gums and they think because all of this noise that they hear reinforces what the other fools are saying, that what they say is what's being said by everybody in the world. And that is why they are fools. That's what happens here. But I'm going to take the time and lay these matters out because I find out people are paying very close attention to all of these things. They will take note of what Senator Howard said, especially those who were treated in the way they were. These folderol-type actions of the kind that occurred the other day should not supplant what we do in the Legislature. There shouldn't have been any hearings that day if they were going to be cut off, so that people could go out here for that nonsense. And that's all that it was: silliness, froth, cotton candy, a lot of fluff, but no substance whatsoever; more air than substance. I'm not just going to be disturbed about what happens, I'm going to use the time I have under the rules to put some things on the record and let the people out there know that there's at least one person, at least one person, and everybody else can speak for himself or herself, who is going to try to get this Legislature to do the kind of things we should do. And I have to take the long way around because if you go straight from point A to point B, as a bird would fly, they miss it. So I'm going back now to my third theorem from Satan's Handbook. And since I am on my opening, I have a little more time, I have two more times to speak, and then I'll close; then I'll offer my next motion. And the Speaker may decide with you all's complicity that he's going to shut me up like he did the other day. You know why I like that? It shows how little your rules mean. And if you honor your rules in the breach, why should I honor them? Because I gave my word that I would play by the rules. The white man doesn't have to play by the rules for he speaketh with forked tongue. Third theorem, Satan's Handbook, promise them the world. From Saint Matthew the fifth chapter verses 8-10: Again, the Devil taketh him...you all get Bible lessons here...A--everybody in this room, it's Bible study time, Bible class is underway. Let's have quiet in the house. I'm not speaking on behalf of the Native Americans for whom there is so much contempt, I'm speaking about the Jewish Jesus that white people say they believe. Now, listen up: "Again, the Devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them." I have read this so much I could quote it, but I want you to know I am reading it. But you don't really know that I'm reading it. I will make it I appear that I'm reading it. This page could be empty. There may not be a word written on any of this paper

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

and I could have you all believing that all of it is written down and I'm reading it, because I don't have to read it, it's etched on my brain. Trump even stole some words from me. He said it's time for little minds to stop thinking little thoughts. And I'm the one who said little minds think little thoughts. He said it's time for us to stop being divided and get together. He listens, he and I. I'm the head; he's the other side of the coin. But anyway, verse nine: And this is what Satan sayeth unto him, all these things will I give thee if thou will fall down and worship me. Then sayeth Jesus unto him, get thee hence, Satan, for it is written thou shall worship the Lord thy God and him only shalt thou serve." That's what he told you all too. You all say the prayers, but you don't do it. You got a chairman who lies at a public hearing. You have committees that insult the public. Although those things in you all's opinion will not rise to the level of a moral issue. But to each his own, to each their own. Continuing my reading, which I really am doing. The byline could be--fall down and worship me for that is what happened here. That's Trump. Here's the headline: "Trump thrills Christian audience with promise. The audience included leaders and founders of many segments of the Christian right, the evangelical movement that began in the 1970s under people including the late Jerry Falwell. Among those present and involved in the program Tuesday were Focus on the Family founder James Dobson, who is no longer with that group; former Christian coalition head Ralph Reed, and evangelist Franklin Graham, son of evangelical icon Billy Graham, and they gave him a standing ovation." [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Time flies when you're having fun. Einstein in demonstrating his theory of relativity said if you are with a beautiful woman, an hour can seem like a minute. If you are sitting on a red hot stove, a second can seem like an hour. So I realize that this might be painful. But you get strong by doing difficult things. And if it doesn't kill you, it will make you sick. Quote from this...well, I will get started on this the next time I am recognized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wishart, you are recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Thank you, Mr. President. I wasn't planning on speaking on this, but because Senator Chambers mentioned me earlier, I thought I would get up and discuss my thoughts on this piece of legislation. For the past two days my office has received many e-mails and phone calls from constituents who are concerned with LB46 because they believe that the language "Choose Life" is too political for a state-sponsored license plate. I want to thank them for reaching out to me and being engaged. I originally voted for this legislation because I believe that we have already opened the door to specialty license plates created by the state. We as a body need to think hard about whether we want to move forward having these kind of plates

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

created by the state when Nebraskans have other opportunities to display their deeply held beliefs on their vehicles. Hearing concerns from people in the district about this specific license plate has made me realize that I need to spend more time thinking about my vote moving forward on this legislation on Select File. Thank you. [LB46A LB46]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Wishart. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Chambers, you are recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And you know why this is directly on point with this license plate matter? It shows the path that it's leading us down. This didn't have to be. And had the Speaker left it alone the other day and let matters take their course under the rules as written instead of becoming a dictator and saying he's going to cut it short because not enough people were speaking, primarily I'm the one; we can silence him. And you all went along with it. When cloture was called, you all voted for it. How much time did he save? Had you...had he let the session take its course, they could have called for a cloture vote. The votes would have been here probably. I don't know about now. And I wouldn't be here now talking like this on an A bill. I would have waited until it came up again on Select File, but I'm not going to let some man, in a manner of speaking, slap me and then I walk away, like I take it. You all take it, but not me. You have heard me say there will be a price to pay and I will get my pound of flesh, and the only way I can get it is by taking time because I'm going to follow the rules. I am not going to do like the Speaker. See my complexion? I'm a black man. Every law, every rule, every regulation that imposes a burden, a responsibility, I have to follow it to the letter. And here is the way you all do, and I always give you little metaphors and I won't lose my place because I can read it. I watched a movie with Paul Newman and it was about Judge Roy Bean, and there really was such a person. And his town was starting to fall prey to what was happening to little towns in those days where development was coming along, the nature of the town was changing. And a young guy played by Roddy McDowall came into Judge Roy Bean's saloon, which was also his courthouse, and Judge Roy Bean said--you're not going to be able to do here what you are trying to do. And Roddy McDowall said--well, Judge, you're a man of the law and the law says I can. And Judge Roy Bean said, the law? Show it to me in the book. So Roddy McDowall went over there and he got a law book. He said--Judge, there it is. Judge Roy Bean, sitting at the table in his saloon, looked at it in his courthouse, looked at it, Roddy said, um-hum, um-hum, it seems to say just what you said it says. So Roddy McDowall felt triumphant. He said--right, Judge. You know what Judge Roy Bean did? He took his hand and he tore those pages out of the book, he said--bad law. He repealed the law by tearing the pages out of the book. He defaced the book, but he didn't in reality repeal the law, but because he had the power in that town, he was the law. As Louis XIV, when he said--I am the state, had the power at that time, but things change. The Speaker, the last day we were here, the day before yesterday, because yesterday you had the faldederal which made it necessary for the public to be insulted at, at least, one public hearing. He wanted to save time and flex his muscles and show his power. And he had told me the previous

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

day he was going to do it. And I told him, I've said just let me know what the rules are and I will play by them. Your colleagues have given you the power to do that. I can be agreeable, but I don't agree with what you are doing. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then he carried it out; he cut off debate and you all joined him. If it's true that he who bears...he who listens to a tale bearer shares the sin for it is the willing ear that sets the tongue in motion. Those who are complicit with what the Speaker did are as guilty as in my mind, the Speaker is for what he did. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schumacher, you are recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I want to, again, get in today's record, as I have several times before, and as I think, if you actually looked at the bill, you would see, too, nowhere, nowhere in this bill does it authorize the words "Choose Life" to be placed on any license plate. Nowhere. Look through it. See if you can find it. These things may be called "Choose Life" plates, but they could just as well be called "choose man on the moon" plates. We do not say these plates shall bear the words "Choose Life." We say they will honor children, or something like that. So, what's the consequence? Regardless of which way you are on the life choice, the abortion choice issue, you got to want to pass something that does what you think it's going to do. This does not authorize the words "Choose Life" on a license plate, period. If you want to do that, if we want to do that, we need to say as much. If this is state-sponsored speech, then the state should speak. The Legislature should say what it means. Now, what happens if we just blow it off and press green? Well, it will get passed, it will get signed by the Governor, and life will go on. Except, if there's opposition out there, the remedy is to enjoin the Department of Motor Vehicles from...I stepped into no-no land, Senator Chambers. That clever old fox. He's thinking too. Enjoining the Department of Motor Vehicles from issuing the plates and we've accomplished nothing but killed a couple of legislative days which is okay because we really got big problems we don't know how to deal with like hundreds of millions of dollars in shortages, like tax rates, and property taxes. But we can get out of those, guys. We can get out of them real easy. We just spend the cash reserve. It's easy. For a little while at least, couple years at least. You guys get...new people get hooked with the consequence of that. So just want to get on the record the legislative intent is clear. There is no authorization for the words "Choose Life" on this plate in this bill. And no matter how we push those buttons, without changing the bill, it ain't going to be there. I yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, 1:55. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, "Professor" Schumacher-- killjoy, spoil sport, party pooper. I have demonstrated that I can have things done by a legislative body declared unconstitutional when their lawyer and all the people in the city of Omaha said it is. I am talking about those red light cameras. All of the legal eagles who spoke on it said that when the city council authorized those cameras, it was constitutional and I, who don't even practice law but know the law, respect the law, love the law, wrote my little brief. The judge read it. She said--Chambers is right; that ordinance is unconstitutional. The lawyer for the city told them to do what I suggested they do in the first place and... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and that is to rescind the ordinance. If you look at the history, the legislative history, a court is going to see what Senator...I have to call him "Professor" now..."Professor" Schumacher emphasized over and over and over--there's no place in the bill where it says explicitly these are the words which shall be on this license plate. And there can be a challenge and I'm sure there will be. But we can avoid that by killing this thing. You see the path that you're walking down now, and I have to do what I'm doing to bring it home to you. So I'm doing my instructing this morning. And Senator Schumacher, ignore him. He just trying to act like he's smart. You know how these smart alecks are who have law degrees. Go on and do it. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Schumacher and Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're next. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I'm going to go back to what I was doing and I'll let what "Professor" Schumacher said speak for itself because now it's a matter of official legislative history. And I'd advise you not to try to bring this bill back or try to amend it because if you do that, you put it in my hands and you allow me to set, again, the agenda of the Legislature. And you'd rather be foolish and do something stupid to teach me something instead of behaving like a Legislature should and do it right. But the right thing would be to kill it which you cannot do. I'm going back to my letter to Mr. Trump. "Again, Mr. Trump, you handled these holy people, so-called, like a maestro. You know they, by and large, are actors. They forgot that your

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

entertainment activities equip you to spot frauds a mile away. And such they are. Check this out--despite the fact that your conduct open and notorious has been everything but the conduct of a good man. You mocked the disabled. You have used profanity in public. You've incited and condoned violence at your rallies. You've boasted and jested about sexual assaults. You've insulted, denigrated, and debased women. You've encouraged religious bigotry against Muslims. You've insulted, stereotyped, and disparaged "Mexicans" as rapists, criminals and murderers. Yet, because you made promises to them and showed them all of the kingdoms of the world as part of the package, they, in effect, fell down and worship you. Yet, because you made those promises, they fell down and worshiped you. Becoming willfully blind, here's what they had to do in order to go along with your program and gain your favor. Here's what they did, this is their reasoning: He walks like a duck. He quacks like a duck. He looks like a duck. Therefore, he must be a chicken." You get it? Looks like a duck. Walks like a duck. Quacks like a duck. He must be a chicken. He is everything but a righteous man. But he's your leader, no, he's your god. You fell down and worshiped him. To top it all off, back to the reading: "To top it all off, they ignored Jesus's caution. In Saint Mark, the tenth chapter, twenty-fifth verse: 'It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.'" Here you are a rich man. It's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for you to go to heaven. But you're leading these Christians, these religious people, these God followers, these Bible thumpers by the nose. Going back to the reading: "You are the master manipulator. You could teach Satan himself a thing or two. Is it becoming increasingly evident why I throw praise your way? Donald Trump is Teflon political. Donnie, I deal with analogies. You are the political equivalent of the late mafia kingpin John J. Gotti, with whom you share a middle initial. He came to be known as the 'Teflon Don' because nothing stuck in terms of charges for various and sundry criminal activities ranging from murder and kidnapping to bribery. A natty dresser enamored of sartorial elegance, he was dubbed the 'Dapper Don.' He worked his way up through the ranks from petty crook to captain in the Gambino crime family, the best organized and most powerful crime outfit in the country. In 1985, the 'Teflon Don' took over the operation after he ordered the rubbing out of the then top dog, Paul Castellano." [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: "Poor Paul met his maker as he exited a Manhattan steakhouse indicating that consuming too much red meat may be detrimental to one's health. Finally, Boss Gotti's luck ran out and his Teflon veneer was perforated when fellow mobster, Sammy the Bull Gravano, turned into 'Sammy the Rat,' as stool pigeons were known in the rackets, and testified against him in a deal with the feds. In 1992, a baker's dozen of charges stuck including murder and racketeering. And the no longer 'Teflon Don' swapped sartorial elegance for prisoner togs and took up residency at the federal big house in Marion, Illinois." I'll continue this next time I have more time to speak. Was that my third time, Mr. President? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Yes. You have your close left, Senator. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Pansing Brooks, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, I rise because I think government-sponsored speech on license plates that's the least bit controversial should not be happening. Then now we have the worry that Senator Schumacher has injected into the conversation, and I agree, I was looking at that too, the fact that it doesn't say specifically that it should be "Choose Life" on the license plates. So that does give me concern. So now I want to set the record straight so I'm going to start asking people. Could I ask Senator Linehan a question? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Linehan, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINEHAN: Certainly. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Senator Linehan, what is your understanding of what the plates will say? [LB46A]

SENATOR LINEHAN: I think "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Linehan. May I ask Senator Lowe a question? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Lowe, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: Why, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Linehan (sic-Lowe). What is your understanding of what the plates will say? [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: Um, I'm Senator Lowe. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Oh, sorry; Lowe, sorry. [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: This is Senator Linehan. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Sorry. I know. [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: We look alike. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: You...no, you both start with an "L," that's something. [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: I'm very sorry, Senator Linehan. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: So, Senator Lowe, what is your understanding of what the plates will say? [LB46A]

SENATOR LOWE: "Choose life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Lowe. Senator Halloran, will you answer a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: I would gladly yield, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you. Senator Halloran, what is your understanding of what the plates are to say? [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: My understanding is the plates will say the same thing that reside on the Colorado plates which... [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay. Could you just tell me what you think it is going to say rather than... [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: Which after the Columbine incident, they implemented "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Halloran. Senator Briese, would you answer a question? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Briese, would you please yield? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR BRIESE: Sure, I'd be happy to yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Briese. I was wondering if you could tell me what your understanding of what the plates will say? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Even though they're not required to say "Choose Life," it is our...it's my understanding that they will say "Choose Life." You look back at the statute... [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: We can't hear you on the mike. Sorry. Is his mike on? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Maybe I wasn't talking into it. It's my understanding that they would say "Choose Life." If you look back at the statute, the plates referring to Pearl Harbor do not require Pearl Harbor...the statute doesn't require the words "Pearl Harbor" on the plate, but I believe that the plates do refer to Pearl Harbor. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay. So was it your intent with your vote in support of this to say "Choose life?" [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Yes, that would be my intent. I think most of the plates in virtually every one of the 29 states also say "Choose Life" on it. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Briese; I have got to get to a number of people. Thank you very much. Senator Ebke, if you'd answer a question, please. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Ebke, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR EBKE: Sure. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: With your vote, was it your intent that the license plate say "Choose Life?" [LB46A]

SENATOR EBKE: That was my understanding. My vote was really one of we've opened the door and so I have a hard time voting against it. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay, so what was your understanding that the license plate would say? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR EBKE: My understanding is that it would say "Choose Life" or something like that. Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Oh, well, what else like that would it be? That's my concern right there. [LB46A]

SENATOR EBKE: Well, I don't know. I mean "Choose Life" would be my understanding, my expectation. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you very much, Senator Ebke. Senator Hansen. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Hansen, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR HANSEN: Yes, I would. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: And what is your understanding of what the plates would say? [LB46A]

SENATOR HANSEN: They would have the phrase "Choose Life" on them. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Hansen. Senator McCollister, just trying to get a broad range of people that are sitting here. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator McCollister, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Yes, I will. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: By the way, it's one minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Could you tell me what your intent...what you believe the intent of the Legislature was in this license plate? What was it going to say? What is it going to say? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: The license plates will say "Choose Life." [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator McCollister. Senator Erdman, would you please answer a question? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Erdman, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: With pleasure. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Could you tell me what your intent was for the license plates to read by your vote for this bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: My intent? [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Yes, what did you believe that you were intending? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: My impression was it would said...it shall say something like "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay, something like. So you're willing to have it changed to something else that we haven't discussed? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: I think that is the intent is "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you very much. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you for including me. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Senator Clements... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator. Time. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay. Thank you very much. And so...okay. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks, Linehan, Lowe, Halloran, Briese, Ebke, Hansen, McCollister, and Erdman. Senator Hansen, you're recognized. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR HANSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would yield my time to Senator Pansing Brooks. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Pansing Brooks, 4:50. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you very much, Senator Hansen, and I will take that time. The reason I went through that, colleagues, is if Senator Schumacher is correct, which I believe he is, because I also don't read specifically that it says in quotes to say "Choose Life," I want it clear how the Legislature was voting and what was expected to be on those plates. As long as we have voted for this, and again, I will voice my objection to promoting controversial speech on government-issued plates, I want to make sure that the words "Choose Life" are the words that we have discussed and that's what our intent was as a body, to use those plates. Since I was going to ask Senator Clements and I haven't talked to him on...could I ask the said question to Senator Clements? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Clements, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: Yes, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Clements, and welcome to the body. [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: You were here for this whole discussion, because even though you're brand new, you were here. [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Yes. And so as you listened to the debate, what was your intent...or what did you understand the intent of the body was for those license plates to read? [LB46A]

SENATOR CLEMENTS: "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you very much, Senator Clements. And, Senator Brasch, could you yield? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Brasch, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRASCH: I will yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Senator Brasch. You were also here for the discussion of LB46 and I wanted to make sure what you understood the discussion to be and what the plates should read. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR BRASCH: "Choose Life." [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you very much, Senator Brasch. And Senator Watermeier isn't here. I would ask...is he here? Senator Watermeier? No? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Watermeier, are you in the Chambers? [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: So again, as an attorney, we use the record of the Legislature a lot, consistently. We look back to see what the intent of the Legislature was both in hearings and on the floor. To me, it's really important to set the record straight. This bill, I think, is going forward no matter the efforts of those of us who disagree with it, but it is clear that if there is any question of what those plates are to say, we are able now to at least establish with a broad range of senators what those plates are to say. Because I don't want it to say something else even more incendiary. That is not a...I think generally it's not incendiary language and I think that was purposely chosen in order not to be as incendiary as it could have been. But it's important that we not...that the Transportation Committee and the Department of Motor Vehicles not be confused about what these plates are to say. So, with that, I will...how much more time do I have? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHEER: One minute, 30 seconds. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Okay. I'll give the rest of my time to Senator Schumacher. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: You can't transfer time that has been transferred to you. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Oh, I can't? Oh, yeah, I forgot. Okay, thank you for the time and thanks to Senator Hansen. I forgot. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Hansen, Senator Pansing Brooks, Senator Clements and Senator Brasch. Senator Pansing Brooks, you are next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: I'll yield my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHEER: Senator Chambers, 4:55. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President; thank you Senator Pansing Brooks. Let's say that I were a judge, and when I use the word "were" rather than "was" it means it's in the realm of possibility but not that it is a fact. If I were a judge and this issue came before me, the Attorney General would be compelled, unless he's going to use his lawyer-like training to defend it, he would argue that by reading the transcript of the exchange between Senator Pansing Brooks and various senators, it was clear what the senators intended to be on the license plate and I would listen. Then I would say, but I read in the transcript where Senator Schumacher said if that's what you intended to say, you ought to say it. Then I would put a query to the Attorney General--were the legislators, at the time this colloquy was going on, in session and able to enact laws, to amend laws, and do all the things a Legislature can do? The Attorney General would have to say--that's true, Your Honor; even though it would gal him to put that honor and direct it at me. Then I would say--why then did not the Legislature, having been notified, choose to have this law, this purported law say what it meant? There were even some senators who were hesitant and were not sure. If they meant the plate to say "Choose Life," are they prohibited by their rules, by anything in existing statutes, by the constitution to put the words into this statute? These plates shall carry the words "Choose Life." Could they have done that, Mr. Attorney General? He'd have to say yes. And I wouldn't ask him why they didn't do it. I could simply rule that this license plate...well I don't want to give you any ideas. Maybe I've given you enough of what I think about it. Leave it just like it is. This is what you all have fought for. This is what you all have voted for. This is why you supported the Speaker and single-handedly amending the rules to cut off debate by way of a cloture vote. You know what you all could have done? You're so smart. All of you are so smart. I would like to ask...I would like to ask Senator McCollister a question. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator McCollister, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR MCCOLLISTER: Yes, I will. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator McCollister, during a lengthy debate on one particular issue, is it necessary to invoke cloture or is there another approach that can be taken? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: I would guess there is another approach that could be taken. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And what would that approach be if you don't mind giving it? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Move to recess. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And even before you do that, you would move to...(in a whispered voice) call the question. [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: I couldn't hear you. Oh. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (In a whispered voice) Call the question. (Laughter) [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Call the question. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And how many votes would you need to call the question? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Just one. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, to succeed in that motion, you would need how many votes? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Twenty-five. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And to succeed with a cloture vote, how many votes do you need? [LB46A]

SENATOR McCOLLISTER: Thirty-three. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now if they were as smart as they think they are, and if the Speaker was talking to them, why didn't it occur to them to just call the question and... [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks, Senator Chambers, and Senator McCollister. Senator Erdman, you're now recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker; good morning, everyone. I read the bill again and it says the department shall choose a license plate, the design that says "Choose Life." I wasn't here when they designated those other plates, the specialty plates that we have like the mountain lion plate or the railroad plate or any of those others, but I would ask a question to some of those who were here. I know Senator Chambers was not. Maybe Senator Schumacher was. Were you here, Senator Schumacher, when you introduced that...when that was adopted? Can I ask a question? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Schumacher, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Yes, I will. Which one? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: The mountain lion plate? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: The mountain lion plate, I was here. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay. So when that bill was introduced, did it specifically say the mountain lion picture that's on there now would be the picture that would be chosen? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: I don't think there was a choice of pictures. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay. So how did they decide what design to make that plate? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: The mountain lion plate specifically talks about conservation of mountain lions, that's a very narrow subject and who drew the drawing was probably some administrative person who did that. We did not draw the drawing of the mountain lion. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: So the point was, you didn't know what it might be when the plate came out. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Well, we knew it had to be something about...it's very narrow theme was conserve mountain lions. So that doesn't give the administrative body very much wiggle room at all. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Let me explain to you what that is on the mountain lion plate. It is not a drawing. It is a picture that was taken from the Wildcat Hills which is in Senator Stinner's district. And I know the person who took the gentlemen there to take the picture, so I know where it was taken. So it is a picture. The point I'm trying to make is, we may not be able to describe in statute or in a bill what exactly should be on the plate. We have to leave that discretion up to someone else, as was the case with the railroad plate or the beef state plate and all those other plates, somebody made the decision. And that's exactly what we're asking for here. So I don't see this as out of line asking the department to design something that says "Choose Life." So I'm not in favor of reconsideration and indefinitely postponing this bill. We've already opened the door for specialty plates long before I was here, and that happened a long time ago, and once we decided that, we made that decision going forward, and I believe that's what we're doing here today. So I would encourage you to vote no against reconsideration and indefinitely postponing. Thank you. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Erdman and Senator Schumacher. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Howard, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President. I yield my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, 4:50. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Howard. I would like to engage Senator Erdman in a discussion if he's willing to participate. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Erdman, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: I'll give it my best shot. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Erdman, you said that you know the person who took the photograph; you said it was taken in the Wildcat Hills. Did that...go ahead. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: I said I knew the person who was with the photographer. I don't know the person who took the picture. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, with the photographer, and this person told you that that photograph was of the Wildcat Hills. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: That's what he told me, yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But that did not include the photograph of the lion, did it? [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: No, it did not. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I was told that lion was the one that was in the zoo in Omaha. He had been anesthetized some years before, around 114th and Dodge, so they anesthetized him, took him to the zoo and that's where he took up residency. So the statement that you gave...I don't think it was meant to mislead, but the picture was not just of Wildcat Hills. I believe it was a composition put together by somebody, a good artistic bent. And that's all I will ask you. Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, the words that are on that plate were in the statute. I wanted it to say: "Save the Mountain Lion" or something like that. And Game and Parks objected all together. But it was changed to a statement relative to conserving the mountain lion. But let all of that go by the boards. We're going to be on this bill a long time. And I told you that I can insinuate myself into people's minds and control them. With all due respect to Senator "Wise Heart," that is not the way her name is pronounced. That's the way I pronounce it and I explained why. But when she was not present, right away, when we had a call of the house, the Speaker three times referred to her as Senator "Wise Heart." So either he agreed with me and my explanation of why I pronounce it that way, or what I had said had taken root in his mind. I believe Senator Erdman was being 100 percent accurate in what he told us, but I didn't want anybody to think he had said more than what his words actually said. Wildcat Hills is the background. That is what is on the plate. But the thing that arrests people's attention is the lion reclining at ease, not in a tree chased there by hunters with dogs and then shot down out of the tree. This bill, however you want to describe it, is a bad move. Now some who voted for cloture are not bound to vote for cloture. They need 33 votes. Have they got 33 votes? Who can say? They had 36 the other day. If three people don't vote for cloture, this thing comes off the agenda and it will not be returned. So there's a guy who would... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...he was on the radio, I'm sure. I don't know if he went on television, but he would always end a discussion with somebody by saying tell you what I'm going to do. Mr. President, I don't have another motion up there pending, I don't believe. I don't think I have another amendment pending. I will withdraw this motion that is up there now. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Without objection, so removed. Moving to LB46A, Senator Schumacher, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This discussion has engendered some interesting issues. No matter what is in the heads of the Legislature, it is the words on the paper that count. This paper does not prescribe the words "Choose Life" and only "Choose Life." It just doesn't do it. A few years ago, the Legislature passed a bill that said we could drop a child off at a hospital and get rid of your parental obligations. It wasn't the intent of the Legislature, nor would they have said it was their intent that you could drop off kids who were 18 years old or 17 years old, but that's what started happening. You know what had to happen? The system didn't say--oh, gee, they didn't mean it, we knew what they really meant, it was little kids. The Legislature had to come back into session...special session and fix its language. There is also nothing in here saying what cannot be put there. Suppose it was "Choose Life," but that's a broad, broad subject--fight carbon monoxide; choose life, don't kill the planet; choose life, honor the dinosaur; choose life, fight abortion; all those things. We don't know whether "Choose Life" is going to have to be there or not or something that means what some people think is "Choose Life." We don't know. We haven't said. Why don't we say it shall say "Choose Life" and nothing else? Now you can say, well, let the department figure it all out. Then that becomes an unconstitutional delegation of authority, because what is the department supposed to know? What guidance have we gotten in? Suppose it said--choose life, limit carbon dioxide; choose life, use wind energy; choose life, use nuclear energy; choose life, don't bomb the Russians; choose life, vote for Trump, you know. We cannot give that broad a delegation to the executive branch. And the point still remains that I raised earlier, on the underlying legislation, we need to say what we mean or we are doing an unauthorized delegation or, worse yet, creating something that can be enjoined and all of this time would have been perfectly wasted. This bill, regardless of your feeling on it, is defective. And a minor, minor...or the underlying bill, I should say, and a minor fix can fix it. But that's okay, we can be bullheaded about it, we can draw lines in the sand, and that's fine, we got nothing better to do anyway. I yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, 1:55. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, the reason I withdrew that motion that was pending was to show you that I can be collegial, but I didn't say I

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

was through. I have another motion that I'm going to put up there, I'm going to offer an amendment. There was no need to bring you in here, the senators in here and let them vote in the way I know they're going to vote, because I can find other ways to take time and I'd rather let that time be taken through discussion rather than waiting for people to come in here. I'm not going to repeat everything the "Professor" said because it is a matter of record and it will be transcribed. But here's the question--if there's plausibility in what "Professor" Schumacher said. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That means if it's possible and it's a rational possibility, why roll the dice and take the chance? Why don't you have the bill say what you want it to say? You cannot do it on this bill, this is an A bill. You'd have to do it on the underlying bill. And by the time you get to that on Select File, some people are going to have to talk to some of you who have made these declaratory statements authoritatively, that the way the bill is written the only words that can be put on that license plate are "Choose Life" or that the Legislature explicitly has mandated that the words be "Choose Life" and nobody can show where such a mandate exists. Let's say you have 50 license plates of this kind on the books now. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Schumacher and Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you are next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And I understand that right this particular moment it's on the bill that I'm speaking, because I want there to be enough time for the processing of the other. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Yes, yes, absolutely. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, if it were my bill, which it is not, but if it were a bill of mine that meant something to me and I was sure I had all the votes, it would be no problem for me to offer the amendment, to say explicitly what it is that I mean. The court says that it will take...when it is construing, when it is interpreting, when it is applying a statute, it will look at the words in the statute. Those words will be interpreted in their ordinary meaning which is to say what ordinary people understand when these words are used.

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

They're not terms of art. And if the words are clear, if they are unambiguous, the court will enforce the words as written. It's not the court's duty to read anything into a law that is not there. It is not the court's province to read anything out of a law that is there. So it behooves the Legislature, while we're in the process of making this sausage, to put the ingredients in it that you want. If it's pork sausage and you haven't put it in the casings yet but what you have in this pan is beef, then don't put beef in there and mislabel it pork. You are in a situation now where you can get rid of the beef, put it in some hot dogs, beef hot dogs, and get some pork and put the pork in the sausage pan, and then put that which is in the pan into the casings. But you don't want to do that because you know everything or you want to teach somebody a lesson. And maybe the lesson will be taught to somebody other than you had in mind, and it might be a lesson different from the one you contemplated. But what I want to try to get across, there are underlying issues that relate to abortion and other contentious issues. And when you have the votes, you can try to force your will and bulldoze people who disagree and because you have the votes, you can do it. If it's a mistake, as happened with what they called the late term abortion law, and I was the only one who voted against it, 40-some odd senators voted for it. I was the one who did most of the speaking against it. There was not a person who was the Speaker at that time who tried to hush me up. So the Legislature passed it. And my words were quoted at the district court level which is where the trial occurred. When the district court struck the bill down as being unconstitutional, it was appealed by the state to the Eighth Circuit. That court also relied on words that I had said and the answers I elicited from the introducer of the bill and agreed with the lower court that it was unconstitutional. It was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court and I had the hat trick, so to speak, the trifecta. The hat trick in sports is when you score three goals if you're in hockey. The trifecta is when you win three of whatever it is. So I scored the trifecta. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The Supreme Court also relied on that exchange and struck the bill down as unconstitutional. The one happened to have been the only one who was right. I ended that article about your expenses because the Governor was wrong who vetoed the bill. The Attorney General was wrong who said it's unconstitutional. But the Nebraska Supreme Court said Chambers is right. You all can have expenses. You don't listen to me. But when you get something good from it, then you grab it. You can do whatever you want to on this, if you get to the point where you can take another vote. And you will. We're not at the end of the session. It will come up on Select File, unless Senator Watermeier does some serious thinking. But as I stated, the Speaker is going to have to shut me down again, because... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Mr. Clerk for a motion. [LB46A]

CLERK: I have a motion, Mr. President, but, first, I might announce the Performance Audit Committee will meet at 11:00 in room 2022. Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA29. (Legislative Journal Page 591.) [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Chambers, you're welcome to open. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. For the record, on page 2 of this bill in line 5, strike the two words and show as stricken "permanent and". To read this sentence with those words in it so you'll understand what I'm offering, no expenditures for permanent and temporary salaries and per diems for state employees shall be made from funds appropriated in this section. I would strike "permanent and". It will then read, no expenditures for temporary salaries, which would mean if they want to use it for permanent salaries, they can. This comes from a cash fund. If they don't have enough in their budget and they got to go into the cash fund, they can do it. This gives flexibility, Senator Groene, which those who offer this bill didn't think about. But I'm kind of tying it into this notion that there is a huge shortfall in terms of revenue coming in, so there is a deficit meaning you're going to have to spend more than what you got. So since you don't have enough to cover what you might have to spend, you're going to have to reduce or change what you're going to spend or you're going to have to increase the revenue. People have said on this floor and the Governor has dictated to them, no new taxes. But there will be tax breaks for the richest people. I think what he's trying to line himself up for is to run for President. I think that's what Mr. Ricketts is thinking about. And his family will underwrite him. I started to read an article...I'll just read the headline then make a comment or two about it. This is from the Lincoln Journal Star, February 23 of 2016, headline, Ricketts family versus Donald Trump. Quote, they have a lot to hide, billionaire tweets. And he pointed out that the Ricketts family...he put one T in their name; they got two of them. Trump knows that nothing hurts a rich person more than misspelling that rich person's name. And he figured people would know what the name is supposed to be if you've got one T instead of two. They would still see it as Ricketts, just like the word "rackets" doesn't have two Ts in it, racket, r-a-c-k-e-t, Ricket, R-i-c-k-e-t. He said they got a lot to hide. And all of a sudden the Ricketts family which has been praised by the Lincoln Journal Star editorially for standing up to Donald Trump, this bully, turned around completely and donated probably over \$1 million to Donald Trump's campaign. Then "Sonny Boy" Ricketts was at that talk that your so-called President gave to that "Repelican" conservative group praising Donald Trump, the man who had insulted his family, as they say on the street, put his mama and his daddy in the dozens. That occurs when you make disparaging remarks about somebody's parents or grandparents. And Donald Trump said they got a lot to hide. Wrongdoing

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

is what he implied. And the Ricketts family took it and they know what they've got in their background. They don't know what Donald Trump knew. But they knew he could have hired private investigators. He could have hired people who check financial records because he said that he saw where the Ricketts family is spending--and he put a dollar sign with an apostrophe S--against him. So for him to say that, he had done some checking out on who these Ricketts people are, but he knew who daddy Joe Ricketts was, the one who runs Ameritrade, who owns the Chicago Cubs so when Trump said they got a lot to hide, the Ricketts family knows they've got a lot to hide but they didn't know whether Trump knew or not. So unlike you all, they wouldn't take a chance. They didn't roll the dice. They didn't say come clean or stay away dirty. Put up or shut up. They wanted him to shut up so they donated over \$1 million...or hundreds of thousands of dollars, whatever the amount is, to his campaign and supported him after saying he was unfit to be President. Now how does that tie into this? You all want to roll the dice. You don't want to put explicit language in the bill to say what you say that it should mean. I want to take time on this bill, and not just take time, try to reason with you to the extent that I can. This Legislature years ago when I was here before I had to sit out four years due to term limits, came up with what they call a safe haven bill which I opposed vigorously. Fought it tooth and nail. And among the other things that I offered for their consideration, why do you say so many months old the child would be if a child is one month older than that. It would allow a woman who had a baby and didn't want to keep the baby to drop the child off at a...it could have been a fire station or a hospital for sure. But anyway, they got to wrangling and wrangling. And finally, to try to overcome my opposition, they said then we won't put an age limit and I knew I had them. As Darth Vader said when he was pursuing Luke Skywalker through space, he looked at Luke and he said I have you now. So that's what I'd say to my mind. I have you now. And they took the age limit out and you know what started happening thanks to what these brilliant members in the Legislature who are as smart as you all are showing yourselves to be? People started bringing children from as far away as the East Coast; some of them were teenagers. And under the bill, they could do that. The Legislature realized it had made a mistake, a blunder. They wouldn't listen to reason so they ran off on a path that was totally unreasonable. They were embarrassed. Some of you all can be embarrassed by this claptrap that you're looking at here. Let it be, as some of them have said, where "Choose Life" are the words to be on the plate. The state will have issued a plate which signals that it's taking a side, choosing a side on the most contentious issue before the country now, in my opinion. And this body is going to do it. If you're this unreasoning, then as we get to other issues...oh, I was going to make a comment toward Senator Erdman but not to ask him a question, all of those of you who are hitched up to the Governor's wagon on these taxes, what are you going to do when we have those contentious issues and I take time, time, time? How are you going to stop me? Can you get 33 votes to cloture one of those bills, when there are other people against it? They're going to drop their opposition to go along with you and the Governor to teach me a lesson? I've been here long enough to know that's not going to happen. When there are contending forces, you're not going to get 33 votes on any bill so I have you. This is just a tuneup. This is showing you what it can be

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

so you'll recognize the real thing when it comes. Heart attacks that don't kill people are for a purpose. The grim reaper was sent. Let's say Senator Halloran has a heart attack, the grim reaper knows that...Jesus knows that when Senator Halloran stands up here and joins these prayers he's not living the life he should. So he has to get Senator Halloran's attention, so he sends the death angel. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And he says I don't want you to kill him. I want you to bring him so close to death that he will recognize real death when it comes and having come so close to death he'll straighten up and fly right. So he'll be standing here or driving his car or in bed and suddenly he gets that sharp pain in his chest. He can't breathe. Pain is running down his left arm. He says uh-oh. Call the EMTs or whoever they call and Senator Halloran survives. But he comes out of that a wiser and better man. He now crosses the moral Ts. He dots the moral I's. And he walks from that point forward in the newness of life. I'm giving you all a foretaste of what's going to happen when we get to the meat of the session and the posterior portions of the session and I'm going to watch your arrogance then. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I'm going to see if the chairs are empty. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Brasch, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRASCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning, colleagues. Good morning, second house. I stand in opposition to FA29. And I do support LB46A. And this has really taken an interesting turn because now we are questioning using the word "life" without quotation marks, Senator Schumacher. Did we question our founding fathers in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776? And this is an interesting article written by The Boston Globe. And it talks about our Declaration of Independence. And what embodies that declaration is what is said in there saying that: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life--the word "life"--Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. And Senator Chambers knows this and he's lip-synching with me as I'm saying that. Well, that society did not question the word "life." That culture did not question the word "life." Since when does the word "life" become a slur or a red flag and putting it on a license plate could instill anger? It should not. I think it would be an ideal situation for the pro-life community, if every man, woman, and child, when

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

they saw that plate, they knew what it meant, that they knew the struggles, they knew the history of Norma McCorvey who was known as Jane Roe, who when she went before a Senate subcommittee in 1998, she made her reversal on Roe v. Wade. And she said that I am dedicated to spending the rest of my life undoing the law that bears my name. I don't know how many people actually read and paid attention to that article. I would love to think that we are all as informed as we should be. You know, you turn on news shows at night and as the interviews or the entertainment shows that Jane and Joe Public seem to be oblivious to national issues to who the leadership is. More people probably know who Senator Chambers is than they know who their Congressperson or even the President is. I was in my district a few years ago and asked a Cub Scout if they knew who their state senator was. They were selling popcorn outside of a store and they said, oh, I think she lives in Alaska. And I said, no, no, she does not. I think her name is Heineman. I said, no, that's your Governor. So to get angry that we are using the word "life" on a plate and it needs quotations, I think we're just looking for trouble. And I think everyone in this body knows it. Those senators who are present and not voting... [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRASCH: ...since when did you fear the word "life"? Since when has it become a slur or slander or infringing on someone's rights of life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness? I compel Senator Chambers to withdraw this filibuster, to let us move forward. There's other fights to fight and battles to be won. Thank you, colleagues. Thank you, second house. Have a great day. [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Brasch. Senator Briese, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning, colleagues. I rise in opposition to the floor amendment. Senator Schumacher, would you yield to a question briefly? [LB46A]

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Schumacher, would you please yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Thank you. Is there anything in LB46 that specifically prohibits the language "Choose Life" on these plates that we're talking about? [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: No, LB46 doesn't prohibit any language. [LB46A LB46]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR BRIESE: Okay, thank you. I disagree with Senator Chambers'...or excuse me, Senator Schumacher's earlier assessment that this statute is defective. I don't think Senator Schumacher is giving our judicial branch enough credit. If there's a question about the interpretation of this statute, clearly a court will look at our intent. As Senator Chambers said earlier, words in the statute are interpreted in their ordinary meaning. It's not a court's duty to read anything into the law. And a court would have to read something into this to conclude that we don't intend to have the phrase "Choose Life" on these plates. From our adoption of a "Choose Life" license plate, I think it's clear to a court that our intent is for these plates to contain the phrase "Choose Life." And with all due respect, Senator Schumacher, I think maybe you've presented a red herring to us here today. Thank you and I would suggest that we oppose the floor amendment and eventually get on to approving LB46. Thank you. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR KRIST PRESIDING

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Briese. Senator Chambers, you're next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, as I put on my glasses, you look a lot better than you did earlier this morning. Anyway, I can't resist. Members of the Legislature, I'm sorry Senator Briese left. Oh, here he is. I would ask him a question if he will yield and I see him on the way to his seat, so I will pose the question as soon as he says he'll yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Briese, will you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Yes, I'll yield to a question. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Briese, could the Legislature put the words it is the intent of the Legislature that the words "Choose Life" adorn this license plate? Could they do that? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Could they use any form of language, if not the ones that I used, to make it clear what the intent is in terms of the specific words? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: I believe they could, yes. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And would you agree that that is not done in the language that is there now? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: I believe the intent is clear from the language that is here now. It's maybe not perhaps as you have suggested it should be, but my... [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How...oh, excuse me. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: ...my position would be that it's...the intent is clear. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How difficult would it be to resolve the issue by simply having a declaration that the plates shall read "Choose Life"? How difficult would that be? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: That would not be very difficult. But it's my position that it essentially does say that. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Briese, do you believe in erring on the side of caution or on the side of foolhardiness? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Typically on the side of caution. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: On the side of caution, you would say state specifically the words that are to be there, wouldn't you? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Well, I don't think it's necessary in this instance. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I see you're not going to answer the question. No, that's all I have. Thank you. Members of the Legislature, if this bill itself...is Senator Watermeier here? I'd like to ask him a question if he'll yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Watermeier, will you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Watermeier, what would happen if this A bill does not pass? [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Well, typically on any bill that has an A bill, it would be stranded, meaning it would not pass. Couldn't move it forward without the cash funds to do it. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Why not? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Well, I think procedurally you can't...if the Fiscal Office believes it needs the A bill to promote the bill, then the bill would then in essence be stranded or dead. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There have been bills in the past when the A bill was just discarded and then the bill didn't have to wait until all this other legislative floor activity. Is it... [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: But... [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did they tell you the constitution says that or it's a practice of the Legislature that if money is to be appropriated, then the A bill and the bill that it's funding have to be together? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: I'm trying to err on the side of being conservative as you said a second ago. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If this bill didn't pass, do you think that would automatically kill the underlying bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Wouldn't kill the bill, but it would strand it I believe. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And let's say that the bill itself passed. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: The A bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The bill, the underlying bill, it passed but there was no A bill. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Is that a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Could the...yes, that's a question. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR WATERMEIER: I believe it would be stranded in my opinion. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It would be what? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: I believe in my opinion, the LB46 wouldn't be killed as in indefinitely postponed, but it would be stranded without the ability to administer it. The executive branch would not be able to administer that bill without what the Fiscal Office is saying and the...not just the Fiscal Office, but all three branches have given their fiscal note to this stating there needs to be some expense and they're going to pull that out of the cash fund to do that. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you know for a fact that the Governor could not procure funds from another source to cover the \$9,000-something in this A bill? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: No, I don't know that for a fact. I don't know how procedurally that works in the DAS. I don't know how that works. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. That's all I'll ask you. Thank you. But these are things that we can consider, not just for this bill but others. I'm going to take my time on this bill. With all that Senator Brasch tried to get you to see, she said are you going to question your founding fathers? The reason black people can say ours, because those founding fathers were slaveholders and they made babies on their black slaves. So they were more literally the fathers of black people than they are of these white people who are here now. And since you, your family came from Ukraine, there was nothing in your bloodline that flowed directly from these white men... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...who founded this country as is found in black people. You said should they be questioned? They are liars based on the Declaration of Independence. You read correctly what they wrote in a lie. We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal. They didn't believe that. They didn't believe it and the U.S. Supreme Court under Roman Catholic Chief Justice Roger B. Taney said a black man has no rights that a white man is bound to respect, which excused us from the human race. The slave trade was sanctified in the constitution which meant these people can be bartered and sold like a cow, pig, or chicken and you don't do that with human beings. So the Declaration of Independence is a fabric of lies. It doesn't bring tears to our eyes, make us feel sentimental. And I'm going to put on my light because my time I think is up for this time. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Halloran, you are recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: Thank you, Mr. President, fellow Senators, fellow Nebraskans. Would Senator Schumacher please yield for a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Yes, I will. [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: Greetings, "Professor." Is it your understanding that with the mountain lion bill that it has explicit language that says mountain lion conservation on the plates? [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: The mountain lion bill addresses a very, very narrow thing-- conservation of mountain lions. Choose Life means a whole ride range of universal things which would result...gives basically the department unfettered discretion as to what it wants to put on that plate. [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: Okay. Thank you, Senator. I thank Senator Pansing Brooks for helping the body clarify what the intent body is on the language. Thank you, Senator. My point is that we have given discretion to individuals to deal with what the wording is on the plate, and I think we made it perfectly clear. Actually the "Choose Life" license plate bill, LB46, was patterned after, very expressly patterned after the lion conservation...mountain lion conservation plate. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Halloran, and Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. This is your third time. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, I have something else I want to get into the record from this letter that I sent to the...he is now the so-called President. I was mentioning what had happened to John Gotti after he took up residency at the big house in Marion, Illinois. He contracted throat cancer, was transferred to a medical facility for federal prisoners in Springfield, Missouri, and was harvested by the grim reaper June 10, 2002, at the age of 61. Thusly did the "Teflon Don" born in the Bronx, October 27, 1940, meet his Waterloo. A major difference between you and Gotti...and in case you forgot, he had to work his way up through the ranks from a flunkie to the top dog. A major difference between you and Gotti is that you were born at the top and the only thing you know about real work was that people of the lower orders did it. Thus, another point at which you are due praise for your savvy or cunning, you manage to rally to your cause the very people toward whom you harbour contempt and distaste, the great

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

unwashed hordes. You would never socialize with them, rub elbows with them, and certainly would never dream of inviting them to dinner. The juncture where you and the "Teflon Don" meet is that in the same way that criminal charges did not stick to him, political opposition, criticism, condemnation, etcetera, have not stuck to you no matter the quarter from which they emanated. On the other hand, you are unable to stake claim to the sartorial elegance due to your ill-fitting big suits, so "Dapper Don" you are not. In fact, you could be dubbed "Trumpelstiltskin," but one out of two ain't bad, right? Whereas some people dream the impossible dream, you revel in and thrive on the unstickable political negatives that would demolish any other politician. You are more Teflon than was Gotti and a more accomplished escape artist than Harry Houdini. That's what I said before Trump was elected. And I sent him a copy of the letter. He might read it. Maybe he never saw it. But at any rate, he'll say this guy understands me, because like Jesus, I have no need that anybody speak to me of man for I know what is in man. And even though I've never been rich, I know what's in rich men too. They happen to be men with a little more of this world's goods than others. On that issue, it's possible, my teacher Senator Walz, for a person to have too much money, but he can never have enough. And being rich does not make them proud. It's being richer than somebody else who is less rich. They play in a different game with different stakes, and if they lose it doesn't matter. Trump is not the one who made brilliant financial decisions. His father left him millions of dollars and he went through a lot of it, and had he just invested...and...with one of these top firms, he would have earned more money that way than what he earned. And he was not making the decisions that led to any of these successful projects. Why do you think they talk about the Trump Organization? There are other people who are doing the thinking and planning... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for the spoiled brat who shows that he doesn't even read books and he boasts about it. He doesn't need to read. Have you all heard the terms woofers and tweeters? Mr. President, this is my third time, right? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I still will stop at this point. Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Seeing no one else in the queue, Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on FA29. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, these are things that they talk...they're like megaphones or amplifiers. The woofers get the deeper tones. The tweeter gets the higher tones. And they're in the realm of electronics, radios, transmission of

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

sound. Well, in the community from which I come and probably in other communities, somebody who makes a lot of empty statements, usually of a threatening variety is said to be woofing like a dog, woof, woof--empty threats, woofing. Well, they ought to call the so-called President the woofier and the tweeter because he definitely is a woofier. And one who constantly Tweets is a Tweeter. So instead of being called President Trump, he should be President "Woofier and Tweeter." And if you look in the dictionary, you can find the word woofier and get the explanation or description or definition, look up tweeter. But when you put them together, they encompass what the so-called President is. You see the things that you can think about when you're in a body like this Legislature. And you can still do your work. You can still take time. And there are people who watch us. And I'm not going to be a standup comedian as some people thought I could after they heard some things I said the other day, especially calling for, is there a Christian in the house? I told them I've got other work to do. But maybe I'll be a sit down in the wheelchair old comedian when I'm about 130 because I'll have more material then. But the Legislature does give a lot of material. But here is the problem, brothers and sisters, friends, enemies, and neutrals, we are not play acting as people do on a stage, in a television drama, or a comedy. The things we do or fail to do have consequences. Some people will get angry because I take a lot of time. But they won't get angry at the fact that this Legislature refuses to expand the reach of Medicaid to provide medical access to their poor brothers and sisters and neighbors if all of you all believe as Christians that you come from one family. The "Bible" asks, if a person has two children, would he give one bread and the other a stone if they come to him hungry? These are your children. These are your people and they cannot obtain medical coverage and you all don't care. You care about a license plate because you want the ones who dictated that you bring this plate give you an endorsement when you run for this office again so you can come here and make a travesty of it and do nothing. You would feel a lot better if you did the things that we have the power to do to help the people in this state who need it. Why do you get up there hypocritically every morning? And you're a hypocrite if all you do is listen. But as I said, the numbers are very slight. There are slim pickings in this Chamber when the prayer goes forth. But if there's a God that you all are praying to...you know why God doesn't answer? God is not a fool like you all think he is. God put a hammer in your hand and put a nail in the other one. There are two pieces of wood and one is on top of the other and that nail needs to be driven through the top piece of wood into the bottom piece so that they are joined. And you say, God, please drive that nail through the wood. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: God, please drive that nail through the wood. If God talked to you all like you say he does, he'd say, fool, what is that in your right hand? Well, God, it's a hammer last time I looked at it. It is a hammer, fool. Now what's that you're holding in your left hand? A nail. Where is the nail placed? On top of a piece of wood. What do you want the nail to do? I want it to pass through the top piece of the wood into the bottom of the wood. Then why do you ask me

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

to do it when you've got the wherewithal to do it yourself? Use the hammer to hit the nail. Why do you pray for the poor? Why do you pray for the hungry? We can do something to alleviate those matters. But since that means nothing to you, your time means nothing to me. And I'm going to squander your time in the way that you squander the good power that we have to do good things and we won't do it. If the Governor stood out there right now and ordered you all to come out there and do something, you'd run right in here like lemmings and you'd do it because he owns you and he bought you so cheaply. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: You have heard the closing on FA29. The question is, should FA29 be amended on to LB46A? All... [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, I would like a call of the house and a roll call vote. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: There's been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? As all those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays to place the house under call. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. Those senators outside the Chamber please return to the Chamber and record your presence. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. The house is under call. Senator Stinner...thank you. Senator Quick, Senator Wishart, Senator McDonnell, Senator Kolowski, please check in. Senator Larson, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senators Halloran, Larson, McDonnell, and Wishart, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Everyone is present or accounted for. Senator Halloran, please check in as soon as you get to your chair. And I understand the request is a roll call vote in regular order? Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 591.) 0 ayes, 28 nays, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: FA29 is not adopted. Raise the call. Debate is now open on LB46A, unless there is something else, Mr. Clerk? Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I decided I'd like to speak before I get the amendment up there first just to add a little variety. Usually I offer my reconsideration motion immediately. I've been watching the votes. They had 36 votes for cloture on February 28. They didn't get 30 votes on that vote. I don't know if some people who simply were not voting on that would nevertheless vote for cloture. I had said that I will take this bill to cloture at all three stages. I had some thoughts about whether I ought to do that on this A bill and I had almost arrived at a decision. But now I'm putting out in my mind the possibility of not taking it to cloture, and I believe I can easily take us to adjournment today. You know what showed me that there's no reasonableness on this bill, and by that, I mean the underlying bill. I'm using the A bill as a teaching aid to create an opportunity for teaching. With all of the discussion back and forth as to whether or not the words "Choose Life" will automatically go on the license plate, nobody has been able to show where the department even is required under the bill to put the words "Choose Life" on the plate. You all are getting to where the court is going to look at it because I talked about if I were a judge, this is what I would do if those words wound up on the plate. I'd like to ask Senator Briese a question if he would answer. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Briese, will you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I have a preliminary question. Senator Briese, would you like to make a very small wager? [LB46A]

SENATOR BRIESE: Oh, absolutely not. I know better than that now. You taught me that early on, to stay away from that in here. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Briese. I can teach something. That's all I would ask of Senator Briese. I would like to ask Senator Watermeier a question because he is the introducer of the bill. He has made it clear what his intent is. Senator Watermeier, will you show me in the bill where it mandates that the department use the words "Choose Life" on this plate? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Watermeier, will you yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: I will yield to a question. It does not mandate in that bill, in LB46, "Choose Life," but I can give you some examples, but I know I won't want to use your time to do that. [LB46A LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And it's just to make a point. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What I'm trying to get you all to see, I was able to make you jump beyond the first step to the second step. The first step, there is nothing in the bill that mandates that the department put the words "Choose Life" on that plate. I would like to ask Senator Stinner because he's in the Chamber and I think he'll know the answer to this question. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Stinner, will you yield to a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR STINNER: Yes, I will. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Stinner, is the Department of Motor Vehicles a part of the executive branch? [LB46A]

SENATOR STINNER: It is not. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who appoints... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who appoints the Director to the Department of Motor Vehicles? [LB46A]

SENATOR STINNER: Wait a minute...yeah. I think the Governor. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, the Governor does. [LB46A]

SENATOR STINNER: Yeah. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that is all I'll ask because I don't want trick questions and my time is running out, but my light is on. There are three branches--the executive, the legislative, the judicial. It's not a part of the judicial branch. It is not a part of the legislative branch. It must be a part of the executive branch, just as the Attorney General's Office is a part of the executive

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

branch. I'm not trying to use trickery, so rather than ask questions, I'll just go and make the point next time I'm recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you have 19 seconds left and you're next in the queue, so just continue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Here's the point that I am getting to. The Governor could determine that there's been too much in the way of political rancor created by this bill. The Governor could say the bill does not say that the words "Choose Life" must be on this license plate. He could look at what Senator Schumacher has been talking about in terms of that amendment that Senator Watermeier...yes, Senator Watermeier offered that amendment where different language would be put into the bill and I voted for that amendment. That language allows the Governor to tell the Department of Motor Vehicles, this is what's going to be on the license plate to comport with the language in that amendment that talks about where the money should go. And that's what's going to be on the plate, not this rancorous red flag. I'm going to run, he would say, for Governor again, and after that, who knows, maybe the Presidency. You could argue that what I am saying about this is not necessarily so. If these possibilities are plausible, how much trouble would it be to say the Legislature intends that the words "Choose Life" shall be on this plate, or this plate shall carry the words "Choose Life." Why is it so difficult? Because they haven't been given permission to do anything on this bill. That's why they don't run this bill. They don't own themselves. They don't make the decisions and you all don't make the decisions. The only decisions that you do make...I mean, you don't make the decisions in the area that I'm talking about with reference to the language on the plate. The only decision you make is that you going to follow the Governor and what he told you to do. And if he hasn't objected to this bill and he's supposed to be pro-life even though he's against legislation that would help poor families, that would make available federal money to extend medical coverage, medical care. You know when he says pro-life, he's not for making the life better that people in this state are living. If they're hungry, let them be hungry. If they're sick, the perfect answer to that, tell them don't get sick. Tell them to stay well. He is a cynic. He has no compassion. He has none of the ordinary things that move the emotions of an ordinary, sane individual to feel sympathy, and go a step beyond, empathy for those who need help and cannot help themselves. But he possesses the power to improve their condition and he won't. That's the kind of person you all have for Governor and that's the kind of person who's dictating to this Legislature and that's the kind of body he's turning this Legislature into. And if you are not going to do the things that we have the power to do to help people in the way I think we ought to be helping people, I'm just one man, it's just one man's opinion, but I'm one man who can take this train off the track. That's the difference between me and everybody else in here. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Even if you could do what I can do, which you can't, you would haven't the heart. You would haven't the nerve to do it. You're like one of these people that they show on television who will put a gun up to somebody's head, the hero's head, and you know the hero is going to be there next week. So the hero says, yeah, you got the gun, but you won't pull the trigger. And the trigger is not pulled because it's not in the script. You all wouldn't pull the trigger. You wouldn't even put the gun up to Governor's head. The way of the transgressor is hard. I must have really transgressed horribly in my previous existence because my life in this Legislature is harder than a rock. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote taken with respect to FA29. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you are recognized to open on your motion. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What did Fats Domino say? Yes, it's me and I'm in love again. Well, I'll say, yes, it's me, back again for more of the same. Senator Halloran, you'd...have you...I'd like to ask Senator Halloran a question if he would yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Halloran, will you yield? [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: Extreme pleasure. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Halloran, you have one thing I wish that I had that you have-- that voice. That voice is really something. And if you want to do something after we get out of here and you let me be your agent, we can do something with that voice. But you don't trust me. So here's the question I am going to ask you. [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: I trust you with my voice, sir. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Do you know any of the songs, I'm not going to ask you for a particular one right now, but any of the songs that were popular in days gone by? Did you ever listen to popular music, in other words, as opposed to just religious music or spirituals and things such as that? [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: I would love... [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you ever hear the song... [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: I would love to answer the question, but it doesn't pertain to the bill. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you'd rather not answer. [LB46A]

SENATOR HALLORAN: I would rather not answer. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well stated. Thank you. I don't have anything else to ask him. See what you can do? See what you can do. Now when Senator Halloran asks me a question, it's going to be I don't think it pertains to what I'm interested in talking about, so I am not going to answer. But people have refused to answer me before. He just used a few more words to do it. He's new here. He hasn't caught on yet. He made himself look small, not me. Now here's what I'm going to say about this. If you can show me one time, any of those of you whom the Governor bought, any of those of you whom the Governor supported, any of those of you whom the Governor joined in those who were telling lies about your opponent, any of you who used Senator Murante's robocall company. Ask him to show you one bill he ever had introduced that would benefit the people of this state who need help. But I can show you bills he's been against and by being against them, he hurt the people who need the help that the Legislature is able to give and which we ought to give. So when I hear people stand up here and talk about how the farmers have a problem and the ranchers, they've got land, haven't they? They've got animals, haven't they? Who told them to become a farmer? Who told them to become a rancher? Who told them to plant corn when the price of corn is not good? I didn't. Nobody else did. They chose it. They made the wrong decision, but the Governor and others are going to say we need to bail these people out. They don't need to be bailed out. Let them sell off some of that land. Let him marry a rich woman who's got money and then they become rich too. And we've had people like that in this Legislature. Then when they marry the rich woman, suddenly they're going to strut around like they're rich--the nouveau riche. They don't know anything about being rich. They knew how to land a fish that had some wealth. There's one named Ramey Whitney here when I came earlier. And I thought he was rich. And Terry Carpenter told me that what he had done was married a rich woman. So Ramey was very pompous. So I said this is how a guy got rich. He found a nickel and he bought a pair of shoe laces and he sold that pair of shoe laces for a dime and bought two pairs of shoe laces. And he kept doing this until he got up to \$35. And then he married a rich widow. And Terry Carpenter led the body in laughter. And they all looked at Ramey Whitney who used to sit right over there by those pillars. And these are the kind of hard-hearted people who are going to join and clump together and make this Legislature into a hard-hearted group of people who will spend all this time on a license plate talking about "Choose Life," caring about children, going to put the pictures of children, and they don't care about the

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

children who are in this world right now. We have children who are called special needs children, and we know these are the code words just like "Choose Life." You think enough money is being spent to help those children whether they're in school or out of school? Children put into so-called foster care, they get sexually abused, they get physically abused, and those caseworkers at HHS are not doing their job. Do they have too many cases? Do they not have enough people? And the Governor wants to cut the money that they've got. And who is going to be hurt by it? He can tell people look what I did to lessen the deficit. I cut, cut, cut. We're not going to spend here. He is stealing money from a fund that lawyers have to pay that they create through the dues they pay. No tax money in it at all. He wants to steal from that fund also. If a Democrat did it, I can imagine what these "Repelicans" would be saying. I look at what they swallow from Trump. And I know what they said about President Obama. And nobody stood up and called Trump a liar while he was lying through his teeth in that speech. They praised him. And he told a lie once again when he talked about the great intelligence information when he was going to exploit that young Navy Seal who died. And he saw...it might have been the widow of the young Seal crying. And they say he soared, s-o-a-r-e-d, when he talked about honoring this young guy. And he sent them on a fool's mission. And there was no usable intelligence obtained and that had been said by the military officials, experts, and Trump lied about it during that speech, and he was praised by the "Repelicans." And "Repelicans" who represent you all in Congress did the same thing. And then at the state level here, you all get mad because I take a little time. And you can't understand why I'm deeply offended when we will not ignore what the Governor dictates and make programs available to help those we say we're here to represent. Senator Brasch is always talking about the second house. That second house comprises human beings. She talks about children. They have children, children who are hungry, children who are sick, and we won't do anything to help them. But we'll stand up here hypocritically and talk about the second house and how we're going to do this and that and you love life, but I say you don't love the children. And if you don't know programs that need more funding--I won't take the time now--come to me. Or better yet, I'll refer you to some groups who work to help children and you'll take their word for it. And they're going to be cut and you all will go along with it. And with all due respect to Senator Stinner, he's got to do certain things as Chairperson. But if he does what they want him to do, he'll move from Senator Stinner to Senator "Sinner." Nobody can dictate to me what I'm going to be as a man and a human being in this Legislature because some group wants it this way or the Governor wants it this way or that way. I'll say like Thomas More--if time come for you to go to...and you can go to heaven because you didn't violate your conscience and I'm going to hell because I violated mine, are you going to go to hell with me for fellowship sake? No, you going to go to heaven and laugh at me. You all ought to think. And if I didn't believe you could do any better than what you're doing, I wouldn't even talk to you like this. This plate doesn't mean that much to me one way or the other. It will just show how foolish the members of the Legislature are and that the Governor indeed owns this Legislature and that so-called pro-life lobby owns a lot of the people in this Legislature, but not everybody, not all Catholics, and not all people who are pro-life whether they're Catholic or not, on a bill like this. [LB46A]

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They know what it is. I was told that KFAB even described it for what it is, an antiabortion bill. Who doesn't know that? If the language of the underlying bill does not mandate that the department put the words "Choose Life" on the plate, how do you know it will be there? You are counting on political pressure to make them do a certain thing that is not mandated under the law. Show Senator--I call "Professor"--Schumacher that you can end run around everything he said by doing what he suggested. If you mean a certain thing, say it. Don't leave it to guesswork on the part of anybody. Just say it. But you won't. That was my third time, wasn't it, Mr. President, or was it? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: That's your opening. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh. Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: You're welcome. Those wishing to speak: Senator Kolowski, Senator Chambers, Senator Brasch, and Senator Walz. Senator Kolowski, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR KOLOWSKI: Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers, please. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, 4:50. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Kolowski. Unlike that Navy guy who said I've not yet begun to fight, and what the story is that you all didn't hear, he was snatched up and thrown overboard. And why would they snatch him up and throw him overboard? Because they said maybe if he'd started fighting, we wouldn't be catching all the flak that we're catching. We're here to fight, but he wanted to make a clever statement. Well, I say it. I have not yet begun to fight. This is just nibbling around the edges on a very insignificant, peewee bill. You know that Nebraska is considered a pro-life state under the control of the pro-life lobby. You know the folks should be here if all of you are going to bend your neck and do what you are ordered to do to move this bill. Will there be 33 at the next cloture vote? I'm looking in the Journal. And there were 36 votes who voted for cloture: Albrecht, Bolz. Will Bolz vote for cloture again? Bostelman, Brasch, Brewer. Will he vote for cloture after the way he and his people were insulted the other day? They always get from us, but they never reciprocate. Briese, Clements, Craighead, Crawford. Will Crawford vote for cloture on a bad bill like this again? Ebke, Erdman, Friesen, Geist, Groene, Halloran, Harr. Will Harr vote for it again? I've had some of these people come to me looking for support. And here they are, a part of rogues gallery. A

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

mother is known by her daughter. A son is known by his father. All men and women are known by the company they keep. If you walk with those who are lame, you yourself will learn to limp. If you lie down with the dogs, you will get up with fleas. I didn't realize some of these people were in that group. Harr, Hilgers, Hilkemann, Hughes, Kolterman, Kuehn. I might start pronouncing his name Kuhn (phonetically), as some people do. But he wants to be called Kuehn so I'll pronounce it Kuehn. Senator Schumacher pronounces his name Schumacher and you all call him Shoemaker (phonetically). Be consistent...oh, you can't. Larson, Lindstrom, Linehan, Lowe. Lowe should take the high road. McDonnell, Murante, no surprise there. Quick? Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, jack go under limbo stick. Quick? Surely my eyes tricketh me. Let me wipe my eyes and tell me, oh, tricky eyes, do not play me false. Show to me what truly is written in rogues gallery. Quick. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Riepe, Scheer, Smith, Stinner, Watermeier, Wayne, Williams, "Wiseheart." Are there four among those who will not vote for cloture and they won't get it? So I've got to see what happens. I'm going to take this thing to cloture and I don't care if the Speaker shuts me down before we get to that point because I already know what he is. It's like I told you all about those horror movies. They look at the demon, and they tell him I know what you are now. I know who you are. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. And you are next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, I am enjoying myself so much I am sure this has to be what Christians would call a sin. I believe that I can take us to...hmm, I might win today when they make the motion to adjourn. We may have more who will say no to teach me a lesson and see how far I can carry us. But I'm going to carry us all the way to adjournment. If you vote against this motion when we get around to voting for it, you know what I'm going to do. You know my MO on this bill. But I'll say it again and I mean it. It didn't have to come to this. I told the Speaker that I didn't agree with what he was doing. I didn't think it was right. He didn't pay attention to me because he's got all of you all with him. But now what can all of you all do to stop me? Tell him tomorrow, shut him down and get a cloture vote and will you have 33? And if you have 33, all you have done is shut me down on the A bill, the A bill. And if it gets to Final Reading, then I'm going to take that time on Final Reading on this bill, on LB46, and maybe any bills that are on Final Reading that day that are in front of it. What then? You're going to get angry? You're angry already. You're not going to be my friend? You're not my friend now. I've got nothing to lose. You know how you get people to at least be willing to listen to an approach you want to take on an issue? Give them a stake in the outcome. So that they will benefit from it, not because you are charismatic, not because you say that this is what a friend would do for

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

another friend. Show them if you do this, you're going to be better off than if you don't do it. Well you don't give me any reason to do differently from what I do. And I'm going to say it again now for the record. You all tailor these rules like white people always tailor rules--to fit a certain individual, and they don't apply to you all at all. You can vote to suspend the rules, but you all don't have to do it because you got a Speaker who will do it on his own. I don't think he's figured out how to be Speaker yet. He is an echo, an echo. These are not echo chambers. They're Ernie's chambers, the place where a voice is found, somebody who thinks. And don't feel sorry for the Speaker. He can speak for himself as he's done on other occasions. And you shouldn't have to feel sorry for the top man. How many people do you think felt sorry for Patton, General Patton? If a man can speak and something needs to be said, let him say it as I said when I said we should have adjourned the other day and then I told you why we should have done it and how wrong you were when you didn't do it. You showed disrespect and you needed somebody to tell you. You're so used to walking over people and those people feel that it's futile to even say anything, but I don't feel that way because as I told you, I'm finding out that more people watch what we do and they see the contempt that is shown... [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...on this floor. I think one of the best things that occurred while I was in the Legislature was when Senator Pansing Brooks and Senator Brewer did that interpretive reading. What I liked about the way Senator Brewer did it is that you could visualize, at least I could, Chief Standing Bear speaking, then the translator giving those words. Each one standing alone if necessary. A space before it, a space after it, so that it could sink in. And the people listening who were listening would understand. I don't think he's an actor. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Brasch, you are recognized.  
[LB46A]

SENATOR BRASCH: Thank you, Mr. President and thank you, colleagues and second house, for your time and your consideration and your understanding today. There's 49 of us that are here that work towards understanding. Looking for the greater good, for greater knowledge, Senator Chambers has been a wonderful teacher and scholar with extensive education in the law, and he does fight to protect us from passing bad legislation. I do not think this is bad legislation. I don't think the words "Choose Life" are bad words to put on a license plate. And I understand when I spoke of the...this country's founding fathers, of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, he

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

turned around and he knew those words. But then he reminded us of the injustice, of the horror and terror that past generations endured. So trying to be a good student and a good scholar, I thought who would Senator Chambers perhaps listen to? So I was curious about what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. thought about abortion and lives of the unborn. And I'm confident that Senator Chambers is aware of that and maybe he will turn around and correct me on this too. But it said that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. believed in the civil rights of the unborn and that his quote, when you talk about poor children, hungry children, you know, children who need better parents perhaps, I'll quote Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and he said, and I quote, "The negro cannot win if he is willing to sacrifice the futures of his children for immediate personal comfort and safety. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." And then he also partnered...and most likely Senator Chambers knows extensively of Reverend Johnny Hunter who is the national director of an institute called LEARN. And they, too, especially protect the unborn of all colors, races but especially of black women and the negro community. And in that, they talk about in 1939 when Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, outlined her plan to eliminate the black community, quote unquote, the most successful educational appeal to the negro is through a religious appeal. It goes on, we do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the negro population and the minister is the man who can straighten out that idea if it occurs to any of their rebellious members. But before Dr. Martin Luther King could live and explain his position and his fear that abortion was being used as a method of birth control, especially in the minorities, that he had passed away. I do believe that... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR BRASCH: ...that "Choose Life" is important to everyone. I would like to yield my time to Senator Watermeier. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Watermeier, one minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Brasch. I appreciate that. There was just a couple of things that were mentioned a couple of times this morning I wanted to kind of make my opinion on this. And it's probably not gospel and it wouldn't be the rule of law, but I'm just going back to what we've done in the past with license plates. On the example that were given to me in my bill, in LB46, I counted that it mentions in statute 16 times about the department shall design license plates to be known as "Choose Life" license plates. The Department shall create designs reflecting support for the protection of Nebraska's children. Past bills that we've passed, even last year with the mountain lion bill, we based this bill off of that bill, several plates--breast cancer awareness was in law. The actual plate says breast cancer awareness. Another plate, Nebraska 150th sesquicentennial... [LB46A LB46]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: The plate reads Nebraska 150. So I have several examples. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Watermeier and Senator Brasch. Senator Walz, you are recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I stand in opposition of LB46. I'd like to yield a question to Senator "Wiseheart." [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Wishart, would you yield to Senator Walz for a question? [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Yes, I will. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: Senator Wishart, do you feel license plate bill is going to provide a good education to children? [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: I would hope we would have higher standards than that. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: Do you feel a license plate bill would provide food to children? [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: No. No, I don't. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: Do you feel a license plate bill would provide medical care to children? [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Well, specifically...actually I'm going to back. Specifically with this bill with the dollars that are raised from it, I do believe it goes to support child welfare. So actually in some ways you could link this to supporting child welfare. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: But the actual license plate would not. [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: No. [LB46A]

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

Floor Debate  
March 02, 2017

---

SENATOR WALZ: Okay. Do you feel a bill such as this would provide a defense for children against bullying? [LB46A]

SENATOR WISHART: Again, I would hope that we would be looking to do more than a license plate in terms of protecting children against bullying. [LB46A]

SENATOR WALZ: Thank you, Senator Wishart. My point is this. I don't feel that the license plate itself is going to help children in any way and I feel that there are other ways that we can provide funds for children rather than having to go through a license plate bill. And that's one of the reasons I am against this LB46. I also want to say that recently...yesterday, a pastor...a pastor's wife contacted me regarding this bill and asked that I vote no on LB46. And I think it was because she was concerned about the division that it would cause among people in Nebraska. And the fact that it will not do anything to prevent abortion or educate children on social responsibility, self-respect, and such. So for that those two reasons I'm against LB46. Thank you. [LB46A LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Walz and Senator Wishart. Mr. Clerk, announcements. [LB46A]

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Hearing notice from Health and Human Services; that's signed by Senator Riepe. Enrollment and Review reports LB140 to Select File with E&R amendments attached. The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee reports LB75 to General File, Senator Murante offers that. Priority bill designations: LB210 and LB543 by the Performance Audit Committee. Senator McCollister would like to add his name to LB14; Kolterman to LB289; Lindstrom to LB641. Senator Albrecht would like to remind the Business and Labor Committee of an executive session tomorrow morning at 8:10 in Room 2022, the Business and Labor Committee tomorrow morning at 8:10. (Legislative Journal pages 592-593.) [LB140 LB75 LB210 LB543 LB14 LB289 LB641]

And, Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Hansen would move to adjourn the body until Friday morning, March 3, at 9:00 a.m.

SENATOR KRIST: You have heard the motion. All those in favor, aye. Opposed, nay. I think the ayes have it. We are adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9:00.