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Floor Debate
March 17, 2017

[LB34 LB46A LB46 LB68 LB127 LB133 LB155 LB308 LB340 LB432 LB479 LR73 LR74]

SENATOR KRIST PRESIDING

SENATOR KRIST: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the forty-ninth day of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain for today is Senator Craighead representing the 6th Legislative District. Please rise.

SENATOR CRAIGHEAD: (Prayer offered.)

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Craighead. I call to order the forty-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.

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

SENATOR KRIST: Any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, an amendment to be printed to LB340 by Senator Murante. New resolution: Senator Brewer offers LR73. That will be laid over. Acknowledgment of receipts of agency reports available on the legislative Web site, and finally the list of registered lobbyists as required by state law to be inserted in the Journal. That's all that I have. (Legislative Journal pages 735-736.) [LB340 LR73]

SENATOR KRIST: The doughnuts are in honor of the birth of a six-pound, seven-ounce, Tamzin Elizabeth Craven, the first grandchild of Senator Ebke, born yesterday. And she has pictures in case you're interested. We'll now proceed to the first item on the agenda.

CLERK: Mr. President, the motion is to adopt permanent rules. I do have amendments pending.

SENATOR KRIST: Speaker Scheer, you are recognized.

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SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues, we are nearing Day 50 as we had talked about on day 30. We've been working on the floor productively. I have talked with a great number of you in relationship to the rules. It does not appear to me that there would be any fruitful purpose continuing the debate on rules as I see no resolution coming forward based on the activities and the items that are on file at this point in time. You will be or are receiving a motion that I have filed to adopt permanent rules based on the temporary rules as of January 4, 2017. What that means is that any additions or changes that have been made on the floor are gone. We will only...we will pick up the rules exactly as we picked them up on the first day of the session, if you approve this motion. I think it's in the best interest of this body. I think it's in the best interest of the state and I would urge your thoughtful consideration. There are, however, over 40 amendments in front of that amendment, so I am going to ask those that have amendments in front of me to please withdraw those. Senator Chambers, would it be your intent to remove all the motions you have on file?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would you ask me again?

SPEAKER SCHEER: Is it your intent to remove all the motions you have on file at this time?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In a word, yes.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Morfeld, is it your intent to remove all the motions you have on rules at this time?

SENATOR MORFELD: Yes.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Senator Schumacher, is it your intent to remove all your motions at this time that you have pending on the rules?

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Mr. Speaker, it's my intention to withdraw the amendments I proposed upon the successful completion of this stand-down procedure.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you. Senator Harr, is it your indication that you will wish to remove all amendments in front of my amendment as we move forward with the rules?

SENATOR HARR: Yes, based on the agreement with you, Mr. Speaker.

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SPEAKER SCHEER: Thank you, Senator Harr. And Senator Larson, is it...is Senator Larson here? He was.

CLERK: Mr. Speaker, he did indicate to me earlier that he wished to withdraw.

SPEAKER SCHEER: Fair enough. That is good. That's all that I care about. (Laughter) Thank you, Mr. President. I will await to introduce my motion.

SENATOR KRIST: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: At that point, Mr. President, given the motion there was pending at the time of last consideration, an amendment by Senator Brewer, and an amendment to that by Senator Krist. I understand Senator Krist wishes to withdraw. Senator Brewer, that leaves your amendment pending.

SENATOR BREWER: I wish to withdraw it.

CLERK: Mr. President, in that case, the motion I have in front of me is as the membership has been provided a copy, it provides as follows: I move that the rules in our possession on January 4, 2017, be adopted as the permanent rules for the 2017 calendar year.

SENATOR KRIST: So seeing no objections to all the withdrawals, so ordered. And now Senator Scheer, you're recognized to open on your motion.

SPEAKER SCHEER: I have already opened and if there is no discussion, which I would appreciate, I would waive closing and go forward with just a machine vote.

SENATOR KRIST: You've heard the motion before you, that is the adoption of the temporary rules as the permanent rules. All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Have all those voted that wish to? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 38 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of permanent rules.

SENATOR KRIST: Day 49, we have adopted permanent rules. Thank you. Next item.

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CLERK: Mr. President, returning to LB46 on Select File. When the Legislature last left the issue yesterday, pending, I believe, was a motion from Senator Chambers, FA7. That amendment is pending as an amendment to the bill, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 359.) [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Doctor of the day introduced.) Senator Chambers, you're recognized to refresh us on your amendment. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And Mr. President, that's exactly what I am going to do. This amendment that I'm offering would substitute the words, "stop bullying" for the two words, "choose life." Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. And do you wish to say anything, Senator Watermeier? Senator Watermeier waives. We're open for debate. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, that was a very important act that the Legislature performed and I want to state that I am pleased with what my colleagues did today. But being who I am, I must say that we did on the 49th day what we could have and should have done probably at the latest, the third or fourth day. But by taking the time, the Legislature played into my hands and my game plan. There is a lot of bad stuff pending. The more time that can be taken in other ways, the less time will remain for mischief to be worked by the Legislature. I am well-aware that there are people who have made various representations when they were running for this office. Agreements, when you're talking about contracting, can only be legally binding if there is a meeting of the minds. If somebody comes to you and say, this is what we're agreeing to, and what that person has in mind is the purchase of your...if you believe things like this, the purchase of your immortal soul. And you think what they're talking about is a replacement of the sole on your shoe and you sign the agreement, there was not a meeting of the minds and if that can be established in court, the contract was void ab initio from the very beginning. There was no meeting of the minds. In addition to meeting the minds, there must be what is called consideration. There must have been something that passed between the two parties memorializing this meeting of the minds. And that would have to be stated if there is any kind of legal challenge. So, in the contract, consideration can consist of a promise for a promise. You don't have to put up money. You don't have to put up lands, but you make a promise that in a sense disadvantages you in exchange for a promise from the other person which to an extent disadvantages that person. Then you have a binding contract. Those people who sold their soul to the devil...oh, I'm sorry, I'm talking about an arrangement with the Governor. Mr. Devil, wherever you are, you get blamed for enough things that I think you're not responsible for and I'm sorry that I suggested that their souls were sold to you. What's that I hear? Oh, you would have given them much more than what they received? I thought you worked at a higher

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level than that. Now having been assured that it's not the devil you sold your soul to, you dealt with somebody at a much lower level. And I think what you sold, because some people don't believe there's such a thing as a soul, is your self-respect, your decency,... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that human dignity, that every person should try to retain. And since we're all adults, a point is going to have to be reached where people in this Legislature, however you got here, are going to have to grow into the stature of one who is here to do the work that a person who took that oath by way of swearing or affirmation to give the best that you have in carrying out the duties of this office. You will take those words seriously and you will cast aside this nonagreement agreement that you may have entered into. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. And Senator Chambers, you're next in the queue, you can continue. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. This, that I'm going to do today, is the beginning of fulfilling a promise that I made based on principle. I'm going to take us to cloture on this issue and we'll do it again on Final if the bill moves. This is not by way of a threat, but to let you know that when I obligate myself to something--what I should say is oblige myself to do something--I will do it. And despite the era of good feeling that we had based on what took place a few minutes ago in adopting the rules, that in no way mitigates my obligation to carry through on what I promised. What we're talking about is an attempt by a certain group to persuade the state by way of the legislators to put not only some political speech on the license plate, which is officially issued by the state, but to take sides in one of the most divisive issues facing this society, namely abortion. I had said the other day that it had reached such a level of seriousness that even some ministers had gotten involved. I had indicated an intent to clip these letters to the editor and share them, but changed my mind. However, to let you know that I wasn't blowing smoke, I was able to immediately put my hands on one such letter. It appeared March 12 in the Omaha World-Herald and the caption, "Leave Politics Off Our License Plates." I'm reading, quote: The Nebraska Legislature is currently considering LB46, which would establish a license plate with the phrase, quote, choose life--expressing opposition to legal abortion, a right that is protected under the U.S. Constitution. Nebraskans hold widely diverse political and religious views on any number of topics, including abortion. Indeed, our political, religious, and ideological diversity makes our state stronger and better. Because of this, it strikes me as a particularly dangerous precedent for the state to begin issuing license plates that make political statements or take particular policy or religious positions, particularly when such positions discourage people from exercising a constitutional right. As a religious leader who supports a woman's right to choose, I am opposed to and offended by the proposal for a state-issued anti-

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choice license plate. As a native Nebraskan who passionately loves this place and its people, I hope we can rise above this effort to turn our license plates, which at their best celebrate our common identity, into billboards giving a state endorsement of one political or religious view over another. Signed, The Rev. Craig Loya, Omaha. And there were others by ministers expressing similar points of view. On this floor there is talk of religious freedom, freedom of speech, but it's always a dodge to cover, an attempt to impose one particular religious view... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...on all the people in this state by intimidating or misleading at least 25 people sent here to work for all of the people into deciding that they owe more to this particular group than they do to that oath that they swore or affirmed upon entering this office. So I'm going to do all that I can to make sure that this travesty does not move forward and become a law. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers, and you're next in the queue. This is your third time. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Thank you. And I shall have many more opportunities. And you know why I feel somewhat buoyed this morning? Is it...I'd like to ask...I won't ask a question for anybody to answer, is the word buoy that I'm using spelled buoy or bouy? Does the o come before the u or does it come after the u? Now, if you said I was talking bull, then naturally the bull would always come after the ewe, e-w-e. I would make a comment to my teacher, Senator Walz. When the students are not listening, you can say anything that you want and it doesn't matter, but today what is being said will be recorded, transcribed, and we have people watching. And the reason I was going to say I am buoyed this morning, there are more people watching than I thought, and there are more people expressing offense at what the Legislature is doing. This license plate will not advance the welfare of the state. There is no compelling state interest involved. This is one of those cases where 25 votes can turn the world on its head as far as a legislative declaration. But because the Legislature declares something does not make it so in the real world. The king, whoever the most powerful king was whoever lived, could have written and advanced an edict that said the earth indeed is flat, but it would not be flat because of that. This Legislature can say that it is appropriate for the state to take a side in the abortion issue and use the stature of the state to put the imprimatur of the state on one side of a political/religious issue and that is wrong. It's not just unwise, it is wrong. It ought not to be done. And we need to become adults. We need to do the job that we're here to do. Anybody who has taken a civics class and remembers any parts of it will be aware that a state can do whatever it wants to do, even pass a law that is 100 percent unconstitutional. But in the real world, there's

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a check on that and it's called either the state Supreme Court or the U.S. Supreme Court. And the Legislature's foolishness, the Legislature's silliness, the Legislature's sheer stupidity can be stopped and the public will not be made to suffer because enough of the senators, at least temporarily, lost their mental equilibrium. They forgot, if they ever knew, the significance, magnitude, and solemnity of an oath, whether you place yourself under oath by way of swearing or affirming. In the same way that I was telling how a contract is memorialized by means of a promise for a promise, the purpose of an oath is not that it will compel somebody to tell the truth. Liars will lie anyway. What it's designed to do is focus the person's attention on what it is that is being asserted by that person. There are consequences. If legally you're in a situation where an oath is required and you swear a false oath, here you would not be violating... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...your oath if you voted for this bill. The oath cannot make you intelligent. Water cannot rise above its level. But the oath that suggested that you should be well aware of the fact that you are solemnly promising to give your best will be violated. You all know good and well that these words should not go on this license plate and I am prepared to take all the time necessary to get us to a cloture vote. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Seeing no one else in the queue, Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on FA7. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (Blows into the microphone.) That's what senators used to do in the old days when they were unfamiliar with the microphone. They wanted to be sure that it was working. I am prepared to take the time and I came prepared to take all of the time myself. There are issues of great import which need to be discussed. So I wouldn't care today if everybody left the Chamber and left it to the world and me. A point has now been reached, since we have permanent rules, where I can reemphasize that I'm going to show you all how to take over a session of the Legislature if you have brain cells working, if you have principled positions, and if you're willing to do all that the rules will allow you to do. I'm going to demonstrate how that is done. And for those of you who think I've grown tired because we're now on the 50-something day, or whatever number day it is, you're going to be sadly disappointed. I have not yet begun to fight. But this is an issue that can be a preliminary. So, buckle your chin straps, buckle your seat belts, and get ready for a rough ride because you're not going to get away cheaply. And I defy you to stop me. If you are going to headlong put this state in a ridiculous position because some

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simple-minded states someplace else did it, you may succeed, but you're going to work hard at it and you're going to pay for it if you do. Senator Watermeier frankly said he saw where other states did this. They did that because they don't have anybody like me in their legislature. And I'd venture to say that if you examine carefully what happens in legislatures, you won't find anybody like me in any legislature in this country because people are not in the legislature for the reason that I am. And if they are, they should demonstrate it. I'm here because of the job I believe needs doing, that I know needs doing. And I can't do it all, but I can do all that I can to try to do it all. So when you vote down this amendment, I would not vote for this amendment because I don't want anything on the license plate. But when you vote down this amendment, you should have paid enough attention to know that the next motion up there will be to reconsider. All I'm going to do is offer amendments and motions to move us to the point where a cloture vote must be attempted. And maybe the other side will win, maybe the other side will not. I remember from having watched Star Wars, one scene toward the end of the movie had Darth Vader, who became the hero of the Star Wars movies, was in his little spacecraft and he was chasing Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader gave the order to all of his other guys who were flying their little crafts, stay on the leader. There is one that we want. Watch him. And Darth Vader was watching him with the eye of a hawk. And when Darth thought he had him, he said, I have you now. But he really didn't because the movie had a script that didn't allow that to happen. So Darth's craft was struck by some kind of projectile and it showed it spinning crazily, but that was not the end. So, I'm going to stay either on you or you're going to stay on me. Either it is my pledge... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...or my warning that I have you now, or you are warning me that you have me now. But if you catch me, you better be well aware of what it is that you have caught and you better be prepared to hold on. It will be like that story they give about the tiger, which I won't give now. I'll do that the next time I speak, if at my advanced age I can keep my memory cells functioning long enough to recollect that that's what I promised to do and then do it. The next motion that I will make is to reconsider. But before that, I will ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote, both of which may be taken care of in a very easy going, leisurely fashion this morning. There is no need to rush. And while I'm just taking time, I see that the "Wayne Bakery" has more products on the desk than were there the other day. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President, and I will ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote. [LB46]

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SENATOR KRIST: Yes, sir. There has been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: 26 ayes, 6 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: 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. The house is under call. Senators Vargas, Linehan, Larson, Brewer, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senator Linehan, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Everyone is accounted for. Mr. Clerk, there has been a request for a roll call vote in regular order. [LB46]

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 737.) 1 aye, 32 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: The amendment fails. Next item, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Raise the call, please. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, I have referred to Bob Seger's song, "You're Still the Same" (sic--"Still the Same".) And sometimes I butchered lyrics, but he was singing about this person who really knew how to gamble and that he had never played a losing hand. And just when they thought that they had him caught, he was much quicker than they thought. The way you trick or baffle your foe is to do that which is unexpected. So I think I'm going to do something that would be unexpected. Mr. President, I withdraw that motion. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Unanimous consent. So ordered. Senator Schumacher, you are recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body. I've watched Senator Chambers for four years now and when he says that he's going to run out the clock on something, he runs out the clock. You just as well bank on it. And the way he runs out the clock is he uses these little yellow pieces of paper. And as I explained a day or so ago, every time he uses one of these, there goes one more little yellow tree. So on my effort to save the yellow

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forest, I yield the balance of my time to Senator Chambers so he doesn't have to use up these pieces of paper so quickly. Thank you. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, 4:20. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, I would ask a question for clarification. Since I withdrew that motion to reconsider, would the appropriate thing be to take up my next pending amendment? And if so, I can either take the time that Senator Schumacher gave me or go to the next amendment that I have. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Schumacher was in the queue. That's why I recognized him. I thought he wanted to speak on Watermeier's bill, Senator Watermeier's bill itself. So if you'd like to open on your amendment, let's go to the Clerk and make it official. Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA8. (Legislative Journal page 359.) [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, why would I give up the opportunity to speak on a motion to reconsider when I said I want to take time? Because I have enough motions in the form of amendments up there. That was just to show you what I could do if I chose to do. See, a king is not even bound by his own fiat. The king can ignore what the king has declared. And that's how you know the difference between a king and the ordinary riffraff, the hoi polloi, the run of the mill, the masses. The king can observe one minute and say the contrary the next minute. So we're going to be here taking this time and something occurred to me. Senator Brasch had come here the other day and asked where did I intend to take the body. She may have heard me say, I'm going to take us to cloture. So I'm mentioning that to indicate that she very well could have heard me say something about taking the body somewhere. And she didn't ask, I don't think, where would I send the body because I wouldn't have the power to do that even if I suggested that should be done as people often do. But my memory cells are working, so I told you I'd tell you the story about the tiger. There was two stories. This guy jumped on the back of a tiger and the tiger behaved in the way that a tiger would go and suddenly awareness came to this person. He couldn't hold on, but he dared not let go. So you better know what you're catching if you think you've caught me. Now let me give you another story. There was a person who believed that there should be no harm done to any living thing. He belonged to some religious group or other. And he was walking down a path and there was a large boulder beside the path. And sticking out of the side nearest to him was a tail that he knew belonged to a tiger, that you never see a tiger's tail without there being a tiger attached to

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the other end. And because the tail was slightly twitching, from his experience with tigers or the knowledge that he had derived from those who had such experience, when a big cat was lying in wait and the tail was twitching, that meant that cat had quarry in mind. And when the quarry came within reach, the quarry was gone. So this individual knew that if he were to proceed down this path, the tiger would get him. So he tried to figure what he could do. Being wise like all religious people are, he studied the situation and right next to this large boulder was another large boulder and the tiger's tail was between the two of them. So he thought and he thought, as children are taught to do when they're in grade school, put on your thinking caps. And that's what he did. And it occurred to him that he should grab the tiger's tail. And he would at least buy some time. So he grabbed the tiger's tail and hung on and he hung on for several hours. Then another person came walking down the trail and this guy said to the person walking down the trail, I am holding the tail of a tiger. This person said, why would you do such a thing as that? The man explained why. And this person said, well, what would you have me do? He said, I would have you hold the tiger's tail. And he said, that would be stupid, why would I do that? He said, because then I'll go get that large rock on the other side of the trail and I'll go around the rock and I'll bash the tiger's brains out and we both shall live. So the man knowing this is a religious person and religious people always tell the truth and they're not tricky, before he did it, he said, aren't you the one who told me and others who listen to you that no living thing should be harmed? And the man holding the tiger said, yes, I did, but under the circumstances, I've changed my mind. So this individual said, you mean despite all the things you've said, if I take the tiger's tail, you will take that rock and dash the tiger's brains out? The religious man said, I certainly shall. So he took the tiger's tail as naive people would do when they're taking religious people at face value. And instead of going to get the rock and dashing the tiger's brains out, this man went back up the trail from the way he came, and the poor guy who had been proselytized and converted said, you lied to me. You told me that if I took the tiger's tail, then you would take that rock and bash his brains out. And the religious man said, that I did. That I did. He said, so you lied. You lied when you said you didn't believe in hurting anything, then you persuaded me to kill the tiger...that you would hold the tiger and you'd kill the tiger. He said, my friend, I did not lie when I said I don't believe in hurting anything, and I'm now returning to my faith. I'm not going to hurt the tiger, I'm leaving. So the man who had been proselytized and converted said, well, now that I'm here with this tiger by the tail and you're not going to dash the tiger's brains out, what am I to do? I believed you? The religious person as religious people do in these situations just smiled that slow, hypocritical religious smile and said, well, my friend, I would suggest that you hold that tiger's tail until somebody comes along who is not religious as you are or I am, and let that person get the rock and bash the tiger's brains out. That's the story. Religious people are hypocrites. They persuade people to do what they say they believe. Then when the fool who turns out to have been a fool because he believed, will act on that which he had come to believe, then the religious person backs out. That's the value of all these prayers, all the protestations of principle, of ethics, and all of the rest of the things that they talk about when they feel there is no consequence to be borne for those lies. And they also don't believe this God that

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they talk about is going to punish them for the wrong that they've done or they would stop. I'd like to ask Senator Briese a question if he would yield. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Briese, will you yield? [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: Certainly. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Briese, how would you like to make the record even on the basis of that wager that you and I had which seems like so long ago? [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: It does seem like a long time ago, but I do remember it vividly. It's typically not in my best interest to have a wager with you, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you believe that I am a man of my word? [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: Oh, yes. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If I promise you that on this wager you will win, are you willing to wager on whether or not I'm telling the truth when I say that? [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: No, I think I better leave it alone, regardless of whether I'm going to win. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If I don't make that the wager, if I just make it a promise that I will propose a wager, which I guarantee that you will win, would you enter that wager with me? [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: Oh, probably not today. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you think my desire... [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: For fun, let's try it. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: I will bet you all the money that I've got in my pocket and being a man of no significant means, I'm not going to pull what little I have. Here's the wager I will bet. If you were talking 100 miles an hour on something you believed in and I pulled a pistol and I put it up to your head and say, you say another word and I'll blow your brains out. My bet is that you would stop talking. [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: Yes. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You won. [LB46]

SENATOR BRIESE: Thank you. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's it. See? Now here's the point that I want to make with that. I won't tell that because it may be topic for another wager. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Briese. Senator Pansing Brooks, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am standing again to say that I do not believe that this is a great idea or a good idea at all. I'm against state-sponsored speech that's controversial. Again, I think that we have created a mechanism with the 250 people can go and get a license. They can pay their \$75. This is a waste of time for our body. In about ten minutes, I think, or 15, we will have spent nine hours on this. We have so many more important things to deal with. Education, the budget, deficit, human trafficking, juvenile criminal issues. There are so many issues we need to be talking about and now we're still wasting it on this license plate. If it's part of the statutes that they have a mechanism to go do it, let's let people go do it. And I'm as guilty as anybody because last year I accepted a license plate bill for ending...or raising awareness on breast cancer. We'll never get to my amendment which was to add, ending rape culture. And that's fine. We don't need to discuss it. We can discuss it in other ways at another point. But colleagues, I plead with you to reconsider ever bringing a license plate again. There is a method for people to get their license plates, and why are we wasting the people's time on this? And people know that if they bring one that has speech that's controversial, it's going to take the time. So we have to make a decision, is that worth the people's time to discuss this? I don't think a license plate is worth that and I would bet you that most of Nebraska does not think it's worthwhile. Again, I want to clarify that the intent has been all along and I've asked almost everybody in the body here that the intent is that the words, the only words on the license plate are, quote, choose life, unquote. And that's the intent of LB46. That's what Senator Watermeier verified yesterday in the middle of this Select File extended debate. And again, I just...I want to thank the senators. I do see a lot here today, which I think is really important. I hope that we

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continue to have those meetings under the balcony rather than having full meetings outside the body, which we have not done before to this extent. So again, I'm against state-sponsored speech that's controversial. Veterans, support of veterans was not controversial. Support of breast cancer awareness was not controversial. This, at hour nine-plus, because I think there was even more because there was time spent on the Appropriations bill, this is controversial. We are wasting our time on controversial matters that people knew full well would be controversial, but the committee decided to put it out and so here we are. So it's not just one senator's fault either. There are a lot of us to blame for this predicament that we're in today. So again, colleagues, I would ask that we not waste the taxpayers' dollars by bringing forward a license plate. A license plate... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR PANSING BROOKS: ...to promote speech that's controversial by our state when they already have another mechanism. Please, colleagues, let's be very careful and selective about the bills we bring. I understand that Senator Watermeier believes it. He gets to bring it. He gets to decide to do that. But the committees need to decide, are there going to be...I mean, we're going to have six plus three plus one and a half on this bill alone. So again, I ask that we be more careful about what we bring out to the floor that is so controversial on something that's not...that has nothing to do with people's rights or people's ability to function or their life or their liberty or their...this is about a license plate. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Pansing Brooks. Senator Watermeier, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, Nebraska. I don't know how far we're going on this bill. I think we're going to be shortly to cloture maybe in ten or fifteen minutes. I was just going to remind the body that I wouldn't have to...if I wouldn't have to, I wouldn't call for the house, but I may have to do that. When we do have the cloture motion come up, I'm going to ask for a green vote on the cloture, a red vote for the motion that Senator Chambers has up now, which I appreciate his ideas on these things, but I can't support that amendment. That would wreck my...the license plate idea, I believe, and then a green vote for LB46. So with that, I'll be calling for a cloture here within ten or fifteen minutes, if you're listening downstairs. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Watermeier. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Watermeier thinks he outfoxed me. Look on your agenda. What is the next bill up? LB46A. That bill is also a captive of mine. So let him get cloture on this one and you're going to give me three or however many number of hours on the A bill. And let me make something else clear, this is a principle position for me. And I'm doing something for the people of this state and for the integrity of the Legislature. The Governor and the Lieutenant Governor supported this bill. And that's why some people on this floor are supporting it. But my job is to teach you what happens when you place yourself in the hands of people who are unreliable and who have no concern whatsoever about the integrity of the Legislature as a lawmaking body. And I'm going to use everything under the rules that I can to teach you this lesson and you don't pay attention. So let me tell you something else that I can do if I decide to. You let there be on the agenda what's called consent calendar. The Speaker's wise. He can forget it. If you all are going to sacrifice this principle by moving this bill, you're going to pay in other ways. And I can make however many amendments that I need to. I could stand up here and just say the alphabet backwards for my teacher, z, y, x, w, v, u, t, s, r, q, p, o, n, m, l, k, j, i, h, g, f, e, d, c, b, a. Now, here's what I taught from that. Not that I can say the alphabet backwards. It's as easy to learn it backwards as forward, people just don't do it, but how to make people listen. That's what you do. Do something unexpected then they, what's next? But if everything is in sequence, if I said I'm going to count from one to a thousand and did so, you would go to sleep or you would go someplace else. But to do something that is not ordinarily done which is to say the alphabet backwards, then seeing that maybe I've reached a sticking point, now you listen. We got him. No, you didn't. You didn't get me. I'm the house. I set up the wager. I am the oddsmaker. I've laid the odds and you are going to beat me? No. Your money is what makes it possible for me to live. I don't risk my money. I put it up there and make you think you can get it, but you can't. So, here is where we are. Take your cloture vote, give Senator Watermeier, the Governor, and the Lieutenant Governor what he wants. Why do you think the Lieutenant Governor is not in the Chair? Because he supported this bill. You all didn't pay attention to that. It's my job to be aware of what's going on around here, and I am aware of it. So, at law if one person commits a crime, that person is charged. If two people work together and decide they're going to do something, that would constitute a conspiracy. And if they take action, which is of sufficient weight to be considered a step toward carrying out the conspiracy, that in itself is a crime because the crime is the conspiracy, not carrying out the crime. You are charged with and convicted of conspiracy to commit whatever the crime is and if you commit the crime, they've got two charges. You committed the crime, and you did it by way of a conspiracy so you got two charges. [LB46 LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Every bill...if this bill makes it to Final Reading, the Speaker doesn't have to accept my advice, I would advise him to let these be the only two bills on Final Reading

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that day because every bill on Final Reading that day is in conspiracy with these two bills. And I will treat every bill on Final Reading the way I'll treat this bill. And if these are the only two bills on Final Reading that day, then the next Final Reading, I will treat every bill on that Final Reading the same way. Test me. I want this test. Remember this, ultimately, the more time we take on things like this, the less time for that mischief which is farther down the road. You cannot beat me. You think you can. You probably thought I was tired this morning. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator McCollister, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR MCCOLLISTER: Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, colleagues. This morning we passed permanent rules, as we all know. It should be obvious to all that we have wasted at least 30 days debating rules which today we dealt with in ten minutes...ten minutes. I contend that this bill is also a wasted effort. And if 200 or 250 Nebraskans can accomplish what LB46 achieves, why are we spending so much time on this particular bill, particularly when time is so short as Senator Chambers indicated? All I can figure out is there is some other objective that makes LB46 so important for us to deal with. This is a peewee bill and political messages do not belong on Nebraska license plates. We are shortchanging Nebraska taxpayers and voters by dealing with this in such an earnest way. We should just move on and deal with the important work ahead. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator McCollister. Senator Watermeier, could you come to the Chair, please. Senator Chambers, you are recognized and this is your third time. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Already? [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Already. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I'm going to be here the full 90 days. I am the only senator who has been on this floor every single day of this session, participating. None of you did. You've gotten your rest. You shouldn't be tired. And at 80 years old I should be doddering, stumbling, and on my last legs as they say. But I'm like that fire in the forest. It might start as a spark here, then that spark is fanned by a zephyr, which is a very gentle little breeze, into a flame. And then the zephyr's big brother comes and it's a

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whooshing wind and the little flame becomes a conflagration that consumes not only the forest, but houses and any other combustible item. You're dealing now with just a little flame. Teach me a lesson, put me in my place, give Senator Watermeier his cloture vote. Give it to him. And he can't give back to you what you're going to lose as a result. I'm curious to see how the Legislature will behave. Now we have some military people in here and some of them know that there can be such a thing as winning a battle and losing the war. Some intelligent commanders know that at a point it may be necessary to make what is called a strategic retreat, not because of cowardice, but considering all of the factors in play it would be best if you are on the sea, to strike sail, wait for a better breeze, and then renew the battle if that should be the case. But with the circumstances being what they are, the best you could hope for is stalemate. Neither of you can do anything. Well, you give me stalemate and I've won. I can't get what I want, but you won't get what you want either. So Senator Watermeier by his comments in reminding us that cloture is near at hand, I thought I would make a comment or two. And because I have respect for this institution and respect for my colleagues, although you may think I don't, but most of all respect for myself. When I make a pledge, I have to deliver it unlike that pledge to the flag where they talk about liberty and justice for all, and there is not liberty and justice for all. If I say this is the way it's going to be and it's within my power to make it that way, I'm going to deliver on that pledge and I will make it that way. If there is anything you all have seen, you see that I know how to take time. I even have a book on my desk. The autobiography of Malcolm X from which I can read passages that will be pertinent and relevant to any and everything that comes up on any subject this session. And it will give me an opportunity to teach my colleagues something about one of the black men I consider to be the greatest who ever lived in this country. And if that's what you want to give me the opportunity to do, I will thank you. I have articles I have written about the Legislature and other matters which will get much more notoriety by me reading them during legislative debate, which I understand goes all over the world, thanks to the gadget which I don't use... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and that's what I will do. So I'm telling you in advance, give Senator Watermeier what he wants and by so doing, give me what I will take. This amendment though, would...for the record, it would strike the two words, "choose life" and substitute the three words, "end domestic violence." Everyone of these proposed amendments deals with an issue facing this society which ought to be addressed on its own. And that's why I chose the kind of amendments that I did. Should I decide to discuss the amendments rather than side issues by way of instruction, there would be no problem taking the time discussing the content of each one of these amendments. And I don't know of any one of them that anybody would disagree with were it not for the fact that I'm offering it as an amendment... [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to this pernicious bill. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, you have a motion on the desk? [LB46]

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Senator Watermeier would move to invoke cloture pursuant to Rule 7, Section 10. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Watermeier, you're recognized. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Mr. President, can I ask for a call of the house, please? [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: There's been a request to place the house under call. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Senator Hilgers, could you check in for me? Senator Morfeld, check in. Senator McCollister, check in. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: 44 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: The house is under call. Senators, please record your presence. All unexcused Senators outside the Chamber please return to the Chamber and record your presence. All unauthorized personnel leave the floor. The house is under call. Members, could you recheck in for us, please? The machine has given us some trouble. Okay, Senator Linehan, please return to the Chamber. Senator Brewer, please check in. Members, check your lights. Make sure you've checked in. We had a problem with the machine. Just check in and make sure you're checked in. I need a check in from Senator Hilkemann, Senator Scheer, Senator Lindstrom, Senator Riepe. Senator Linehan, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senator Watermeier, Senator Linehan is not answering her phone, however, they're sending someone down. Would you like to wait? Understand she is on her way up. Okay. Could you say that again for the...? Senator Chambers has already asked for a roll call. [LB46]

SENATOR WATERMEIER: Okay. Thank you. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: Okay. Mr. Clerk. The question is for cloture. Mr. Clerk, please call the roll. [LB46]

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CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 738.) 35 ayes, 8 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to invoke cloture. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: The motion is successful. Next vote will be on FA8. I'm going to keep the call in place. All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Have all those voted that wish to? Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: 4 ayes, 36 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: The amendment fails. Senator Wishart for a motion. [LB46]

SENATOR WISHART: Thank you, Mr. President. I move that LB46 be advanced to E&R for engrossing. [LB46]

SENATOR KRIST: You've heard the motion. All those in favor, aye. Opposed, nay. LB46 advances. Raise the call. (Visitors introduced.) Next item, Mr. Clerk. [LB46]

CLERK: Mr. President, LB46A, no E&R. Senator Chambers would move to amend, FA45. (Legislative Journal page 739.) [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, my amendment says on page 2, line 1, strike and show as stricken \$9,631 and insert \$9,630. That is my motion. And if you pay attention, I won't be able to run out of motions because...(gavel). Thank you, Mr. President, although I don't mind, I'm talking to the people outside the Chamber so they can see how clever I am and how clever Senator Watermeier is and whether I'm going to deliver on my promise. Now, we don't have three hours left today. But we'll do the best we can and I shall take us at least until noon. The dollar figure in this bill is \$9,631. That gives me 9,630 motions to amend. But I'm not going to go overboard Senator Lowe and even think about offering 9,630 motions. I will offer a few. Then, those are amendments, actually. Then I have some backup motions because I don't feel like writing all of those. I'm going to offer an indefinite postponement motion. I'm going to offer a bracket motion. Then I'm going to offer a motion to bracket to a day certain. And as we move along, I'm going to move to reconsider some of these amendments and reconsider some of these motions. I'm just alerting you because you may have wondered how in the world could I find a way to offer amendments on an A bill. I'm just looking at one small segment of one line in an A bill. And that A bill comprises seven lines. Now if I can get 9,630 amendments on line one, what could I do with the remaining six lines?

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Have a lot of fun and take some time. Subtract this day from the total number of days that you have. Subtract part of tomorrow. And there will be bills on the agenda tomorrow. If we look at the agenda, the next two bills will be one of "Professor" Schumacher, LB148. Now, I'm going to do some arithmetic on these two bills, and I'm going to figure how much time each one of these bills will take in order to get us to a high noon. And I will take half of that time and sacrifice myself for "Professor" Schumacher and then I will stop so that he will have time to move his bill. Then, the next bill, LB590, which belongs to Senator Crawford, I will show the same consideration. I will not take enough time to prevent that bill from getting a vote and moving forward, but you will have two bills tomorrow that will take up another day. Senator Watermeier showed you all what he can lead you into. Now I'm going to show you all that I'm going to deliver on what I promised. I had not said that I intended to do what I've just expressed, I talked about Final Reading. But as I say, the king can change his mind for any reason or no reason. I said you need to be careful when you say you're going to catch me that you know what you're catching. And I'd say this also, quoting from Oliver Wendell Holmes who is quoting somebody else, if you strike at the king you must kill him. So we're playing for high stakes now. Think about this. The matter that kept us going for over two dozen days, dealt with the rules. I didn't care what you did with the rules. They can't stop me no matter what you do with them as long as you have rules. And then if you have no rules, then I can just wreak rack and ruin because there's nothing to restrain me. If we can take that many days on the rules, how many days can be taken on these other bills, even though I don't have any concern about some of them, no interest in them whatsoever? To me, a number of them fall into the category that I call the Loran Schmit theorem. They don't help anybody. They don't hurt anybody. They don't cost anything. They don't do anything. Ordinarily, that would be my approach toward them. But Senator Watermeier has now introduced the rules for the rest of the session. I had made the idle boast that I control the agenda. That was false. I had reckoned without Senator Watermeier, that sly old gray fox. He is controlling the agenda. He even controls me. He put me in a position where I have to do his bidding. What is Senator Watermeier's bidding? That we take a lot of time on a lot of other bills so that there will be less time to engage in the mischief that is on the line. I know how hard the members of the Revenue Committee have been laboring. And I know how much wheelspinning, going nowhere, has occurred within that committee. And let me tell you why. Because the agenda of that committee has not been set by the members of that committee, not even by what would be in the best interest of the people, but who are the players outside the Legislature calling the shots. And there goes Senator Watermeier, leaving...no, that's not Senator Watermeier. That's Senator Williams leaving. I'm sorry, Senator Watermeier. I'm sorry, Senator Williams, I called you out. There are so many things that can be done to take time on the floor of this Legislature and what I'm doing is less damaging to the Legislature than what you all did with that last bill. What you all did with that religious garb bill that allows people in their religious garb to teach in the public school classrooms. See by what I'm doing, I can stop that kind of bad legislation from moving, and that's a positive good. You all have shown you don't have judgment, that you're incapable of behaving in a way that would allow you to have self respect. And I realize that I

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have provoked you sore, using a term that the "Bibble" uses. But all it shows is that I control you and I can make you vote against your own best interest. That's what you did when you voted for that license plate. You thought you were voting for a license plate, didn't you? You thought that would advance what you expect to get because you knew the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor supported that bill, and the so-called pro-life movement. You know why I say so-called? Because that's not really what they are. But now that I see that Senator Bostelman is back I would like to ask him a question or two. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bostelman, I'll wait until I'm recognized. A minute wouldn't be fair to either one of us, so I'm going to put on my light again, but I'm going to take my minute or whatever portions thereof remain because now I want to take the time. I want to get the full measure. I want to squeeze the last drop of water from this sponge, and that's what I'm going to do. But because Senator Bostelman and I had a discussion yesterday, I want to continue it today. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

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

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. We are spending a lot of time, aren't we? And for those of you who have not been here before or here very long, you kind of like to get your bills moved. And one of the ways you get them moved is by having them on consent calendar if they don't have any controversy, being able to package them into other bills that look like they may be moving on the floor, and to have that happen efficiently it takes time. Every time you package one bill into another you have to do a little introduction. There's an opportunity for debate and discussion, and we are running out of time. We are running out of time. Think about this bill and I haven't been voting on a lot of the motions and things because this is just bewildering. What as I understand these plates will say is even though the language doesn't say this, the record now is pretty clear, what they are intended to say is, "choose life" and a picture of two little kids playing. Okay. That's the message. All right? Let's suppose one was adamantly antiabortion. So adamant so that one would be willing to take the regular license plate with that magnificent sower sowing seed off of their car and put on a specialized plate. Why would one want to put on, go through all the effort of unscrewing the whole license plate, putting the new one on, paying the extra fee, maybe doing it in the cold winter weather, maybe cutting your finger or pinching your finger with the pliers when you are doing that, to put such a wimpy, contradictory message on your plate, on your car? First of all it says, "choose." Now if you are adamantly antiabortion, there is no choice. So why would you have that on your plate? You're acknowledging the right to choose or that there is a moral or legal choice. Wouldn't

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one rather say what they meant, like, outlaw abortion? I mean if you are going to waste the time having a message on your plate, say something with the message. And to do that rather than have a whole Legislature wipe out agenda after agenda, wouldn't it be easier to get 250 people to throw in who agree with you, and I would guess in this state there's probably 250 adamantly antiabortion people, and get a plate that says something? In fact, if you did that, you would probably get more than 250 people wearing those plates. And to the extent that you're able to do that, the folks that are getting these wimpy, "choose life" plates, they're diluting your market and diluting your message. This is just boondoggles to spend this time on this plate to deliver an ineffective message. But we can do it. The Legislature has the right to do things like this. It also has the Constitutional limitations of 90 days, of which we've blown 30 discussing rules going in one big circle. So, you know we will have one of these after another, after another, and 90 days out of our conceivably 600 days here, if you've served two terms, will more or less have gone up in smoke. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: So think about all that. Are we being smart? Are we doing what the people sent us here to do or are we just going through political machinations to run like a squirrel in a squirrel cage? Go like heck and go nowhere. Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Schumacher. Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, Mr. President, friends, enemies, and neutrals, you're now in the Chambers' zone. Let me explain some things as I go along. There are a lot of you who did not want to participate in the discussion of the license plate. I don't know whether you're embarrassed, I don't know whether you agree or because you were beginning to feel as foolish as you are acting. But when I start out on other people's bills, I don't have to do that by myself because the person whose bill it is will have comments to make. Maybe there are amendments that person would like to have the body accept. I won't have to draft a lot of amendments on every bill, but I will show my civic interest by discussing every bill that is before us. And because I have been here for so many years, you could give me a bill with 100 pages right now and in fewer than five minutes, I can have the equivalent of 100 amendments because I know how to do that. You don't know how to do it. Sometimes something happens, you pop your finger and say why didn't I think of that? Because you have not lived the kind of life that cause you to think the kind of thoughts that would put you in a position to do those things. Not anything that I do requires any particularly high degree of intelligence. All of it is based on the rules. You think these rules were written by geniuses? Certainly not, because they were not written for the purpose of regulating the conduct of geniuses. They were written in

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"moon-dane" (phonetically) language, mundane if you like that pronunciation better, because those are the kind of people who wind up in the Legislature. And I say again, you'll find nobody like me in any Legislature in this country. Certainly nobody like me in this Legislature. I said there are things that I'm going to want to read, but I'd like to just talk for a while first to show how easy it is to do that. I recited a poem yesterday, and in the middle of that poem I did some stumbling, trying to remember, how does the line go, which line goes first? So maybe what I ought to do is go back to that place where I was stumbling, and pick up the thread there and do it right. It was called "The Ballad of East and West." Some people who read that title carelessly will be asked afterward, what's the title of that poem? They would say the Ballad of the East and the West because they are accustomed to those two directions being preceded by the word "the." But it's not the east and the west, it is simply "The Ballad of East and West" because the poem was to show a clash between those two. And despite the fact that there is this clash or perceived clash, a person from the east and a person from the west, notice I put the word "the" in front of the two words respectively, will come together... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and no clash exists after they have had an encounter in the nature of a clash. We're having a clash of wills. Senator Watermeier, carrying water for the Governor, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the so-called pro-life lobby against me. Three against one. As I always point out, if Ali Baba could handle 40 thieves, I should certainly be able to handle three, or however many. And I'm not calling them thieves. Thieves have a certain level of honor which some others don't. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

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

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Let me try to remember where I started stumbling and bumbling in that poem. This fellow called Kamal, his name was spelled Kamal, maybe it would be "Kamall", (phonetically) but I say "Kamal". I pronounce it the way I want to. He had stolen the mare of a colonel, a white colonel. These white people were there dominating and oppressing the people. So, when he had stolen this mare, the colonel's son was made aware of the fact that the mare had been taken somewhere else and wanted to know where the man who stole that animal would be found. So, the son of a person who held the position, a Ressaldar, stood up and explained to the white son of the white colonel what went on in that part of the world, that this man is as difficult to corral as the morning mist. So if you know where the morning mist goes when it no longer is there you know where he is. In other words, nobody can say in advance where he is or where he is going to be. But, there is a general location where he hangs out, so if you catch him before he gets to that location, you've got him. But, don't venture beyond a certain

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point if you don't have him because you're in his territory which is vast. And there is rock to the left, a rock to the right, and low lean thorn between and you may hear a breech-bolt snick where never a man has seen. So the colonel began chasing this man. Along the way he stopped at a point called Fort Bukloh where these white people had put some kind of establishment they were going to use to help carry out their oppression of these people. And when he reached this fort, the colonel's son, they told him you ought to sit down and refresh yourself, eat something, and the colonel said, no, I'm after somebody and I can't linger here. So he took off and then he saw the red mare with the thief on its back. And he started chasing and he shot at this man twice and missed him. And the man mocked him. He said, you shoot like a soldier, show now if you can ride. So they started running and running and there was what is called a watercourse, something like a depression in the ground with water. And the colonel had taken a dun. That was what they called...the horse was that the colonel's son had to use. This animal fell at the watercourse. In a woeful heap fell he and Kamal has turned the red mare back and pulled the rider free. He has knocked the pistol out of his hand--small room was there to strive. Was only by favor of mine, quoth he, ye rode so long alive. There is not a rock for twenty miles, there is not a clump of trees, but rest a man of my own men with his rifle cocked on his knees. If I had bowed my head on my breast, as I have kept it high, the kite that whistles above us now will gorge until she could not fly. If I had raised my bridle hand as I have kept it low, the little jackals that flee so fast were feasting all in a row. Lightly spoke the colonel's son, do good to bird or beast but count who come for the broken meats... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...before thou makest a feast. They will feed their horse on the standing crop, their men on the garnered grain, and the thatch of the byres will serve their fires when all the cattle are slain. Now, if thou thinkest the price be high, in steer and gear and stack, give me my father's mare again, and I'll fight my own way back. But if you think the price be fair, thy brethren wait to sup, the hound is kin to the jackal-spawn--howl, dog, and call them up. Kamal has gripped him by the hand and set him upon his feet. No talk shall be of dog said he when wolf and gray wolf meet. May I eat dirt if thou has hurt of me in deed or breath; what dam of lances brought thee forth to jest at the dawn with death. The colonel's son then lightly spoke, I hold by the blood of my clan, take up the mare as my father's gift--by God, she has carried a man. The red mare ran to the colonel's son...is my time up? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time. And you're next in the queue, you can continue. [LB46A LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The red mare ran to the colonel's son and nuzzled against his breast. We be two strong men, said Kamal then, but she loveth the younger best. So shall she go with the lifter's dower, my turquoise-studded rein, my broidered saddle and saddle-cloth, and silver

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stirrups twain. The colonel's son a pistol drew and held its muzzle-end. You have taken the one from a foe said he, will you take the mate from a friend? A gift for a gift, spoke Kamal straight, a limb for the risk of a limb. Thy father has sent his son to me, I'll send my son to him. With that he whistled his only son who dropped from a mountain crest, he trod the ling like a buck in spring and looked like a lance at rest. Here is thy master, Kamal said, who leads a troop of the guides and thou must ride at his left side a shield on shoulder rides. And thou must eat the White Queen's meat, and all her foes are thine. And thou must harry thy father's hold for the peace of the border-line. And thou must make a trooper tough and hack thy way to power. Perhaps they will raise thee to Ressaldar when I am hanged in Peshawur. The colonel's son he rides the mare and Kamal's boy the dun. And two have come back to Fort Buckloh when there went forth but one. And as they drew to the Quarter-Guard, full twenty swords flew clear. There was not a man but carried his feud with the blood of the mountaineer. Have done, have done quote the colonel's son. Put up the steel at your sides, last night you struck at a border thief. Tonight 'tis a man of the Guides. Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet. Till earth and sky stand presently at God's great judgment seat. But there is neither East nor West, Border nor Breed nor Birth. When two strong men stand face to face, though they come from the ends of the earth. Let me tell you why I did that. There will be some smart-alecky people who will go get the transcript of that rhyme as I rendered it yesterday and come to the place where I stumbled and fumbled and say, uh-huh, we got him. But then they'll go back and get this part too, and they will say, by God, he got it all right. Was he tricking us? Did he fool us again? Did we bet against the house and lose? Mr. President, how much time do I have this time? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: 2:15. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Is there anybody else in the queue, as you call it? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: No. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then you'll let me know if I can just continue up for my close, because I'm having so much fun reciting poetry I think I'm going to do some more. I don't just like Rudyard Kipling, but people who have some kind of character defect seem to write the best poetry. Now, Kipling wrote another one, "Gunga Din," but I'm not going to go into that one, except for these lines. Gunga Din was black. He was an Indian, the India Indian, and he was a flunky for these white soldiers who were dominating and oppressing his people and he had to serve these white people. He cooked their food, he gave them water, never poisoned them. And they'd knock him around and mistreat him. As people, in a manner of speaking, mistreated my brother, Senator Brewer's people, and my people when they forced us to come over here, not as immigrants, but as kidnapped, captured, brutalized, dehumanized people. So Gunga Din did all

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this dirty work they required. Then Kipling felt somewhat guilty, so he talked about when the end of the world comes and everybody is judged, and guess where Gunga Din went? He went to hell with these white people and Kipling was saying that he's squatting over the coals, burning up, but he's still serving his white masters as always. But then he was forced to make a concession and these are the kind of things that made Kipling seem like such a wonderful guy, better than what he really was. By the living God that flayed you, that made you, that's what he's going to say, but he introduced it with this by making a confession: Though I belted you, and flayed you, by the living God that made you, you're a better man than I am, Gunga Din. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you are now on your closing. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. If Gunga Din was a better man than Kipling, why did Gunga Din go to hell with Kipling? Because Kipling at the end showed what he really is and that's what these hypocrites are. Anybody can present fine sounding words. Is there the conduct to back them up? A favorite poet of mine was Edgar Allan Poe, a master of horror. And he also is the father of the detective's story, which a lot of people don't realize. He wrote a short story called "The Purloined Letter" and from that you could have derived the expression, hidden in plain sight. Purloined meant stolen. A letter was being looked for, detectives were doing the looking. Read the story, that's all I'm going to tell you. But he wrote a poem that I like. Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary, over many quaint and curious volumes of forgotten lore--while I nodded nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping. (Making tapping noise) As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door. Not Chambers' door. I'm not in the poem, I'm saying the poem. Rapping at my chamber door. 'Tis some visitor, I murmured, tapping at my chamber door. This it is and nothing more. Ah, distinctly I remember, it was in the bleak December, any separate dying ember wrought his ghost upon the floor. Eagerly I wished the morrow, vainly had I sought to borrow from my books, surcease of sorrow--sorrow for the lost Lenore. For that rare and radiant maiden whom the angels named Lenore, nameless here forevermore. And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain thrilled me, filled me with fantastic terrors, never felt before. So that now, to still the beating of my heart I kept repeating, 'tis some visitor entreating entry at my chamber door, this it is and nothing more. Open here I flung the shutter, then with many a flirt and flutter, in there stepped a stately raven from the saintly days of yore, not the least obeisance made he; not a minute stopped or stayed he. But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my chamber door, perched upon the bust of Pallas, perched and sat and nothing more. That's enough of that one. See the sledges with the bells, silver bells. What a world of merriment their melody foretells. How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle in the icy air of night. While the stars that oversprinkle all the heavens seem to twinkle with a crystalline delight. Keeping time, time, time in a sort of Runic rhyme, to the tintinabulation that so musically wells from the bells, bells, bells, bells, bells, bells, bells, from the jingling and the tinkling of the bells. And for the romantics who

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might be watching to show how versatile Poe was: It was many and many a year ago in a kingdom by the sea that there lived a maid that you may know by the name of Annabel Lee and this maiden lived with no other thought than to love and be loved by me. That's enough of that. Poetry... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...has been called the distillation of language. You could call it a condensation. You remove that which is superfluous and that will not contribute anything to the movement of the poem. But that is not all that it is. You could define it as metered rhyme. But some people came along and said it does not have to have meter and it need not rhyme. So what I'm speaking could be considered prose or could be considered poetry, which shows how language can lose its precision in order that any and everybody can do that which takes time, study, and effort and practice to do, but which people don't want to put into that, but they can do it anyway. So somebody can say: I sat down at my desk, my coffee cup was on the top of my desk. There was black coffee in it, I diluted the coffee with cream. There was steam that rose. I picked my coffee cup up... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and I drank from the cup. That's a poem. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You've heard the closing on FA45. The question is the adoption of FA45. All those in favor... [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: 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? All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: 16 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: 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. Senator Linehan and Senator Hansen...I see you. Thanks. Senator Riepe and Senator Linehan, please return to the

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Chamber. The house is under call. Senators Stinner and Riepe, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Everyone is accounted for and I understand you want a roll call vote, regular order, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 739.) 0 ayes, 30 nays, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Motion fails. Mr. Clerk. Raise the call. [LB46A]

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I don't know how many of you all read "Peanuts." There's a very meanspirited little girl called Lucy, and I was offended the first time I saw the way she was portrayed as being meanspirited because again, it played into the stereotypical role that women are to fulfill. Either they are docile and silly, bubbling and perky, or they're a virago, which is a quarrelsome, meanspirited woman, or some of those other negative things. Little Lucy was a combination of all the negatives and what she would do with Charlie Brown is hold the football for Charlie Brown to run and kick it and just when he got ready to have his foot come in contact with the ball she'd move it and he'd turn a flip in the air. And Charlie Brown did this over and over and over down through the years and never seemed to catch on. Well, sometimes the Lucy principle comes in handy. I just gave an example of the Lucy principle. After saying the time I was going to take on this bill, the last vote demolished the amendment that I offered. Well, that gave you the notion that maybe I've relented and I'm not going to do anything on this bill. Well, I was bringing into play the Lucy principle. You thought that you could kick the ball right on across, but I decided I'd lift it away and you can't kick the ball at all. You do a flip in midair and I'm going back to being what Lucy was supposed to be. Now, if I want to, I can discuss the bill for a while, but since I have other ways to take my time, I'm going to let that be my speaking at this point because my other amendment that I'm offering should be on the desk by now. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

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

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to amend FA46. (Legislative Journal page 739.) [LB46A]

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

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And as if anybody would be listening, what this amendment would do, on page 2 in line 1, strike and show as stricken \$9,631 and insert...is this the one that says \$9,000? [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: \$9,630, Senator. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. \$9,630. We're working our way down gradually. The amount of money contained in the amendment is not of any importance. It gives me the opportunity to continue extending debate on this bad bill. Is Senator Bostelman still in the Chamber or has he escaped? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Bostelman, will you yield to Senator Chambers, please? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bostelman, yesterday I had begun to engage you in a discussion and pointed out that one of the members had said that the bill that created the license plate honoring various members of the military was not controversial. She had no problem with that. And without repeating everything, do you recall me saying that it did not take much to give a license plate, but it would take more to do something of substance such as liberalizing after we legalize medical cannabis that would help veterans injured either physically or mentally or both while in combat. It would take more to vote for a bill to legalize medical cannabis than it would to vote for a license plate honoring the military. Do you remember that as the substance of our discussion? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. And then I asked you, would you vote to legalize medical cannabis and you made reference to something pertaining to the FDA? Do you recall that? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Yes. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that was one of the...let me ask you, could you go through that again so I won't seem to put words in your mouth or misrepresent what you said? [LB46A]

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SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I believe the question or my comment was to the fact that any new medications, any new drugs that come in that are being presented that I felt that the FDA was the appropriate authority for which those should be vetted through and that's the process that new medication, new drugs need to take. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if I may rephrase as the court does when it's handling an appeal, you feel that the FDA has a procedure and process by which medications which are going to be approved for use, would have to go through that process of the FDA and approved by the FDA? Would you agree that that's a correct statement? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Sure. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. And you stated that medical cannabis has not gone through that process, therefore...first of all, is that what you said? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: No, it's not what I said. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Tell me what... [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I did not say that that has not gone through a process. I don't know whether it has or not. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I said you referenced the bill in the hearing the other day. My comment was, was I didn't...I wasn't a participant in that bill so I don't know what that was about. And I do not know if medical marijuana, if that's gone through FDA process or not. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, to advance the discussion, let's say that the FDA has not... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...approved it. Would that be a basis for you to not support the legalization of it in Nebraska? [LB46A]

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SENATOR BOSTELMAN: It would be one of the considerations I'd be looking at. Correct. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But that in and of itself would not stop you from voting? Let me not jump ahead. [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Sure. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If that were not in the picture, would you then vote to legalize medical cannabis? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I don't know how we could keep that out of the picture, I guess, would be my response. I think that has to be part of that picture. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Could you say it a little louder? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I said I think that has to be part of that picture. I don't think we can remove that completely from it. That has to be part of my decisionmaking process of that. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But at this point, for whatever reason, you would not vote to legalize medical cannabis? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: From what I know from our discussion right now, that's correct. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Suppose the FDA said, no way, then would you vote for it? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: No way in... [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No way that it can be used. Would you then vote to legalize it? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: I would have to look at the reasons why they said no way and for what purposes it was going to be used because I think there's many different uses. [LB46A]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: They said there's no legitimate medicinal purpose for it to be used in this country, therefore, it will not be approved by the FDA for usage in this country. [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Then I would...I think I would not vote to allow that. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senators. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Bostelman. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Chambers, you're next in the queue. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Bostelman and I had a very, very brief little discussion and Senator Bostelman, would you like to give what you told me so that it's clearer what it is that you're saying? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: Sure. The reason why I think these go through the FDA, it both benefits...well, I want to make sure that the drug, whatever the drug is, is appropriately administered and it benefits, it doesn't do harm. And I believe that FDA process is that process it needs to go through to ensure that we don't cause harm, further harm to an individual. If it helps them, great, and I'm all for that. It's we don't want to cause further harm and I don't know that...and I believe FDA is the appropriate authority which that should be vetted. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Suppose the Governor said, I know what the FDA said but I believe that medical cannabis ought to be legalized and I want the Legislature to legalize it. Would you vote to legalize it? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: No. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Suppose the Attorney General joined and said, I also feel that way, would you vote to legalize it? [LB46A]

SENATOR BOSTELMAN: No. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Your...his position is very clear. Let me tell you all what this Governor did who does not want medical cannabis legalized in this state even though the Trump administration said that there would be no money, no effort expended by any federal

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agency to take action against any use of medical cannabis where it's been legalized by the state. The Governor, nevertheless, is against our doing that. But here's what the Governor and the Attorney General and the Director of Corrections were not against doing. The FDA had said that sodium thiopental which Nebraska would have had to use as one of the three drugs to carry out an execution has no appropriate use in this country and it cannot be used and it cannot be imported and that made it an illegal drug. And the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Director of Corrections formed a conspiracy and attempted to purchase this illegal drug which the FDA had said categorically cannot be imported, cannot be imported into this country. That demolishes Senator Bostelman's position, except he elaborated on why he took that position. But the Governor spent money, \$54,000 he had given to a drug dealer in India to procure and provide for this state a drug that the FDA said was illegal for use in this country, and it's illegal to import it and the Governor and the Attorney General and the Director of Corrections, the top law enforcement people in this state were engaging in an illegal drug deal to purchase illegal drugs. That's what they did. And now they're going to ride their high horse. They were criminals. They engaged in criminal activity. If I tried to do that, the Attorney General would prosecute me. They don't want people bringing marijuana from Colorado, yet here they were. And they actually...Senator Bostelman may find this hard to believe because I'm sure he has respect for the Governor, they cut a warrant or a check... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...drawn on Nebraska's taxpayers' money for \$54,000 and gave it to the drug dealer without even having the drugs in hand. And then the drug dealer said he was not going to deliver the drugs. And the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Director of Corrections had made no plans for how to get that money back if the drug dealer didn't go through with the deal. So Nebraskans right now are out of \$54,000. Where are all these tax groups who talk about protecting the taxpayers' money? Where is Senator Groene on that? Quiet as a mouse. Where are all the rest of them? Quiet as mice because their Governor, their Attorney General, their Director of Corrections were involved in an illegal drug deal. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

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

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

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And let me tell you how that discussion came about. There was a little talk or maybe a lot of talk about the difference between a noncontroversial declaration on a license plate issued by the state. There was a great difference between that kind

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of message and this one called, "choose life," which puts the state on one side of a very contentious political/religious debate in this country and by the way, it puts the state on the wrong side. The state has done everything it could through this compliant Legislature to defeat the constitutional right of a woman who chooses not to carry a pregnancy to term. They've even put outlandish language in the statute books condemning the U.S. Supreme Court. That's the low level of these so-called right to life people. And now they, through the instrumentality of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor, put this Legislature, thus far, on record favoring this kind of speech. And I'm going to continue to talk about it because it was the wrong thing to do and that whole action has not been completed yet. The bill was moved to Final Reading. This bill remains mired on Select File and I remain determined to keep us on this bill until noon. I don't know the total number of hours we will have spent at that time, but the full amount allowed prior to cloture being invoked is the time that I shall take. The next motion, which is an amendment that I have offered there, will be voted down and I will make a motion to reconsider that one. The only reason I didn't do it on the prior one was to kind of throw you off your stride, make you think you know everything I'm going to do and show you that you don't know because you don't control me. But thanks to the Legislature functioning as it does, you all behaving in a predictable fashion, I can control the Legislature. Senator Bostelman, bless his soul, if there is a soul, gave me the opportunity to show how hypocritical the Governor and the Attorney General are when they are opposed to legalizing medical cannabis. I pointed out that as a member of the Judiciary Committee, I sat through a very long hearing that we had. What was so fascinating, so riveting about it, was the testimony of two veterans, both suffering excruciating, unremitting pain every day. And the people who on this floor would vote for a license plate to honor these people would not vote to legalize the use of a medication which has been shown to alleviate their suffering, and they got it in other states where their Legislatures are more enlightened and less bullied, intimidated, and purchased than some of the senators in this Nebraska Legislature. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Voting for those license plates was a supreme act of hypocrisy in retrospect because I know what the senators are going to do who voted for those plates. They will resist and try to kill a bill that would alleviate the suffering of these military people. Military people have a way of referring to each other as comrades in arms or a band of brothers and all these nice-sounding words. I'm wondering if everybody on this floor who was in the military in any capacity will vote against a bill that would legalize the use of medical marijuana. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

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

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SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Seeing no one in the queue, Senator Chambers, you're recognized. This would be your close, sir. You're recognized to close. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I want to tell Wyatt and...what's the other one's name? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Wyatt and Carter. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Wyatt and Carter. They have the best uncle who is an ex-fire chief, that I have ever met in my life and I've been on this earth 80 years. Take that home with you, and I mean it. Senator McDonnell really is a great person and he has shown himself to be that so far in the Legislature. But going back to what I was talking about, we often will have various problems in society and people who are facing those problems will sometimes approach lawmakers or individuals who can do something about it and will make a statement similar to this, I want this problem to have a face. I want to be the face of this problem. And you know what we made those people do, and it's something I hate to see done, but it's necessary. Why is it that people who are in pain, who are suffering, who have been injured, who have been broken, have to come before us, and we are just mortals as they are, and beg us, show us their wounds, strip away every shred of privacy that everybody wants to have, talk about the pain, the suffering that they endure? That only adds to it. But they know how hard-hearted politicians are. Two of them did it anyway. I wish Senator Bostelman could have been there. I wish the members of this Legislature could have been there and looked at what happens to people you all say risk their life and their health for you all, so that you can come to this Legislature and vote against their interests. That's what these men got injured for. That's why they're suffering. Every day, they suffer more agony for a longer, sustained period than the Jesus Christ that you all say you worship. And even when it came to Jesus, a type of narcotic was offered to him to dull the pain of that execution called crucifixion. And here these men are, one of them hobbling around on crutches and there might have been some people watching who had trouble keeping their eyes dry, and they are empathizing. If they're older people, it could have been their son. Somebody the same age, it could have been a brother. Little bitty children, if they understood it, it could have been their father. And we make them go through that to us who are mean, hard-hearted and evil, downright evil. Let me show you the kind of things that the Governor and that the Attorney General are not opposed to. In fact, nobody in this country is opposed to it because these drugs, these potentially fatal drugs have been approved by the FDA for usage and they don't help these veterans. How many of you watch television and see a drug called HUMIRA for arthritis? It can cause infections, various types of cancer, heart problems, tuberculosis, and it can be fatal. If any one of those things were said about medical cannabis, that's what the hypocritical Governor and Attorney General and people on this floor would be saying. [LB46A]

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SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Marijuana can kill you. No record of it. But this drug HUMIRA will. ELIQUIS can lead to fatal bleeding, yet it's sold and advertised on television. The Governor is not against that, nor the Attorney General, nor the hypocrites in here who would be opposed to legalizing something that would help the veterans who risk their lives for you all. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You've heard the closing on FA46. The question is...yes, Senator Chambers? [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: 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? All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: 16 ayes and 4 nays to go under call, Mr. President. [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. Senators Stinner, Bolz, Kuehn, Brasch, Harr, Wayne, Linehan, Brewer, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Senators Stinner, Pansing Brooks, Wayne, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. Everyone is accounted for. How would you like to proceed, Senator Chambers? Roll call vote, regular order. Mr. Clerk. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 740.) The vote is 0 ayes, 29 nays, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Motion fails. Mr. Clerk for a motion. [LB46A]

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, a priority motion. Senator Chambers would move to reconsider the vote just taken. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Raise the call. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment. [LB46A]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'm like a ship that's tossed and driven, battered by an angry sea, yet I'm the only one with a smile on my face. I'm the one suffering. I'm the one working, but I'm smiling. This that I do energize it because I'm doing the work of the righteous, for the last, the lost, and the least. Going back to this catalog of these medications that the Governor does not object to, nor the Attorney General, nor any of the other people who are in the pocket of the large pharmaceuticals. I had mentioned ELIQUIS. That's a blood thinner and they mention...they had these people on television, just doing all kind of energetic things and saying, it even works better than warfarin. I won't ask for anybody to answer. Does anybody here know what warfarin is a main ingredient for? I would like to ask Senator Blood a question if she would answer? [LB46A]

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

SENATOR BLOOD: I will yield. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And Senator Blood, the question was, warfarin is an ingredient in what? [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: Rat poison. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And rat poison is designed to do what to the rat? [LB46A]

SENATOR BLOOD: Encourage them to bleed to death. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And in most cases, the rats oblige. Now warfarin is a part of a medication given to human beings, but this ELIQUIS works better than warfarin. So does it mean it kills quicker, it kills with less pain? Can it kill at all? Yes, it can. And you must be careful because it will make it harder to heal and it could lead to excessive bleeding and it can be fatal. So when it comes to the ultimate outcome, warfarin and ELIQUIS are the same. Suppose somebody could show that if you used medical cannabis, it would not work this way on everybody, but it would cause one person to bleed to death. That would be the line in the sand for all these people who are against it. Now, what about Victoza? Victoza is a nice medication. It can lead to dehydration. It can lead to pancreatitis, which can be fatal. Three respected and respectable drugs advertised on television, all three of these so far have a side effect which can be fatal. These are lethal compounds, but they can be sold, and there are people who are comfortable with these things being sold. But they cannot show where a single person has died as a result of using medical cannabis. Do you know what a "Simple Simon" said who was going to be the chief medical officer of this state, and you all are going to vote to confirm him, the

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Governor appointed him? He said that he's against medical cannabis being used legally. But under my penetrating questioning, he had to acknowledge that there are doctors who prescribe it, that these doctors are not behaving unethically when they prescribe it. They're not violating their Hippocratic oath when they prescribe it. There are people who benefited from it, but he's "agin" it. When I asked, can you document a single death that resulted from medical cannabis, here is what the fool...not the fool, the one who thought everybody on that committee was a fool said, that a person, a man who had used medical cannabis shot his wife and he attributed that to a death from medical cannabis. I said to him, do you see a difference between somebody being shot with a gun and dying and somebody ingesting medical cannabis and dying? Well, yes. And how did this man...how did this woman die? Her husband shot her. Then why are you going to tell us she died because of medical cannabis? That is what the man you all are going to vote to confirm had said. Those are the kind of BS arguments that will be advanced. Senator "Wiseheart," I believe has prioritized the medical cannabis bill. A number of us on the committee, who are enlightened, have signed onto the bill. I think there's a good chance it will come to this floor. And if you think that what I'm saying is meanspirited now, you wait until that bill is before us and some of the fools stand on this floor and try to give rational arguments where there is nothing rational that can be said. Senator Bostelman even had to acknowledge enough to make me able to attack his Governor and his Attorney General for going against the FDA's explicit prohibition against importing sodium thiopental, and they knew that. Some states had tried to import it, but the drug when it came into the country was immediately seized. Going on with this catalog. "Two-jay-oh" (phonetically) is what this...the way this is pronounced. Toujeo. It has to do with regulating blood sugar and as with the ones before, not only can it be life-threatening, it can terminate a person's life. So there are four of them. What about LYRICA? That is one you hear a lot about. Everyone on this list, one of the side effects is possible death. Trulicity for blood sugar, it can be fatal. Tresiba, heart failure, bad breathing, and possible death, oh, and pancreatitis, swelling of the tongue and ultimately it could be fatal. JARDIANCE for diabetes. It also may be fatal. And I think I missed...I don't know if I mentioned Neulasta. There have been fatal occurrences. JANUVIA, also has led to deaths. All of these are drugs advertised on television. There is not a person who stood on this floor and demeaned members of the military. Everybody had glowing praise. They even voted for a license plate to honor them. Jesus said, you honor me with your mouth, but your hearts are far from me. You all honor these people supposedly with a license plate, but when it comes to action, your integrity goes out the window. Your self-respect goes out the window. A reputation... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for truth telling, goes out the window because the Governor and the Attorney General said, you all do what I tell you to do. I don't want that legalized, don't do it. And you all are going to fall right in behind and not do it. And when that bill comes out here and comes before us, I'm going to speak very strongly for the bill, very strongly against those who

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oppose it, not for opposing that bill, but for being hypocrites. I'm going to get the voting record of all those who voted for the license plates for the veterans and I'm going to see how they vote on this one. And it will be their own conduct that condemns them. All I will do is call attention to it. And now what's happening in the Chamber could be an example of a famous Christmas song. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Senator Chambers, you're now on your next five. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Do you know what that song is? (Singing) Silent night, not so, holy night. Only one is calm, only one is bright. Round yon virgin mother and child. All the hypocrites gather to worship the holy infant so tender and mild. But as wicked and vicious as they are, all day long they will never sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace. There are different ways songs can be sung. They fit here. And that's the kind of discussion we're going to have when medical cannabis comes out here and you all can't stop me. And remember, there are people watching us. They wonder where you all are, empty Chamber. They've heard you talk about how you care about the veterans. They've even heard some of you all condemn the national VA for not giving proper attention to injured, broken veterans. But when there's an opportunity for us to do something, we won't because the Governor who's vindictive, who is a would-be drug purchaser, illegal drug deal, he engaged in that. He authorized it. He conspired to do it, but who will make him accountable? The question phrased usually is in this manner. Who will watch the watchers? Who will police the police? Only those cranks, those crackpots, of whose number I am one. I don't care about the Governor. All he is, is a man. That's all. I imagine if he would drink coffee and eat beans and drink some clabber milk you all call buttermilk, there would be a war within his members as the "Bible" described it and he would sound like a thunderbird just like anybody else. In other words, he'd be breaking wind and how dignified would he look then? He could get diarrhea and how dignified is he then? Just because he got some votes and is sitting over in that office and called the Governor, that he's something more than anybody else. A hero is nothing but a sandwich and a man ain't nothing but a man. And some are pretty poor specimens of that. And yet that which sits in that office controls what goes on in this Legislature. You have to take my word for it when I tell you that those veterans that came before the Judiciary Committee had pain so palpable, you could see it in their face, you could hear it in their voice. And the Judiciary Committee, I'm persuaded, would do the right thing which means we should advance that bill. And we should make these senators put up or shut up. You all think I don't remember things. I was telling you a story about Jesus the other day after he left the Garden of Gethsemane... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...where his disciples could not watch for one hour. Is this my third time or my closing? My first? [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: This is your first time speaking. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I will wait until I'm recognized and then I'll resume that story. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Just continue on and I'll tell you when you're in the next five. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh, thank you. Jesus had been praying. His disciples slept. He said, you can't watch with me one hour. But then he had to go meet his fate, a very unkind fate. There was a fellow named Judas who sat with Jesus at the Last Supper. Jesus knew it was the Last Supper, they didn't. So Judas carried the bag, a banker. Jesus told Judas, that thou doest, do quickly, swiftly, posthaste. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: You're on your last five now. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. So Judas went out, and the "Bible" can be dramatic. It said Judas went out and it was night and Judas went to make a deal with the religious people, like you all in here. They said, we need somebody to betray this fellow. And that's where the story falls apart and makes no sense. In the small geographic area where Jesus operated, he had raised the dead. You know that if somebody did that, everybody is going to know it. Healed the sick. Everybody would know. Cast out demons. Everybody would know. Before Jesus came, you know how they'd do with people who were mentally tormented? They'd beat them, they would give as much pain to them as possible, not admitting that they themselves were sadist, but they're saying they're going to drive the devil out by inflicting pain on this one who is the home for the devil. But Jesus didn't do that. There was a man in a cave, he cut himself. He lived with these wild animals and Jesus said, hey, man, clean yourself up, and told these devils, leave this man alone. And they went and took a herd of swine who strayed away, went over the cliff, and I suppose they drowned. That's the way Jesus operated. In reading all the myths and legends about him, I have yet to find one where he inflicted pain and suffering on anybody. That's probably why they hanged him on a cross and why people in this body will not follow him. They don't have enough in common with him. But at any rate, Judas, as vicious as he was for betraying a friend, who had been a friend to Judas, but Judas was not a friend to him. Judas kissed him and the soldier said, the one that Judas kisses is the one that you all grab. And that's where I had to end the story. Somebody who had the notoriety of Jesus had to be identified with a kiss. That makes no sense, but that was for dramatic effect. So when the soldiers were going to lay their...put the grabs on Jesus, Peter took the sword from one of them and cut a guy's

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ear off. Jesus said, wait a minute, Peter. That's not the script. And you know what Jesus did? He picked the man's ear up off the ground, blood running out of it. He wiped the blood on the sleeve of his gown. Now, all of this isn't in the story, but it had to happen this way. He then took that ear and put it upside the man's head and it was as though it had never been cut off. Now, as superstitious as many military people are, do you think they could watch a man whose ear was cut off, have that ear restored and still take this man to be killed? Oh, no. Oh, no. They would have carried out what Pilate's wife told Pilate. She said, have thou nothing to do with this good man for I have suffered much because of him in a dream. These soldiers would not have taken him into custody, but the story couldn't be written had that not happened. So somebody inserted the words, put up your sword, Peter. He that lives by the sword shall die by the sword. And they said that justifies capital punishment. Although a woman brought to Jesus, who had committed a capital offense, was turned loose by Jesus. He wouldn't let them carry out the death penalty. He said, I come here to fulfill the law. They said, well, the law says kill her. He said, there is no word of the law,... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...there's the life of the law. I come to show you the life and the meaning of the law and you won't kill this woman. The only one who can kill is the one who is without sin. They said, well, you're without sin. He said, that's right, and one who is without sin will not kill. So unless you're without sin, don't kill anybody. And if you kill somebody, that proves that you are one who is sinful. But at any rate, they went on. Jesus was put through a trial with Pilate. Pilate tried every way he could to find a way to let him go, but the religious people would not allow that to happen. Thank you, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schumacher, you're recognized. [LB46A]

SENATOR SCHUMACHER: I yield my time to Senator Chambers. [LB46A]

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

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I've observed "Professor" Schumacher and he's too good to be a Christian and I'm not going to call him one because I don't want to insult him, but based on what they're supposed to be. But anyway, Pilate was...these people came around and Pilate was from Rome and he had to try to keep the peace. He knew that the religious people didn't like this fellow, so he had his people knock him around. They whipped him and put thorns on his...around his head, supposedly. And then when he found out that Jesus was from Herod's territory, he sent Jesus to Herod because Pilate didn't want to kill a man he knew was

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innocent. Rome...Romans had a kind of rough-hewn but fundamental sense of justice, so he didn't want to kill an innocent man so he sent Jesus down to Herod. And Herod checked him out and he wanted him to do a miracle and he put all kind of questions to Jesus and Jesus wouldn't answer, wouldn't say anything. So Herod sent him back to Pilate. But it's said from that day Pilate and Herod were friends, for before that time there was enmity between them. Jesus brought two enemies, both of whom were going to be complicit in his death, brought them together and the enmity existing between them was erased by one condemned as a criminal to die. So while all this was going on, Peter was warming his hands by a fire. They said, you were with him, weren't you? No, no, I wasn't. So these people were not persistent. Okay, if you say you weren't, you weren't. And under the breath, liar. So he came to another one. And they said, I know you were with him. I saw you with him. He said, case of mistaken identity. The worst witnesses are eyewitness people. You thought you saw me, I was never with him. So he's starting to get nervous because Jesus has told him, Peter, before the cock crows, you're going to deny me three times. Peter said, look, Jesus, you're talking to the rock. This is "Rocky" the rock, the rock is not going to deny you. You saw what I did back there. I took that soldier's sword and I cut his ear off. Jesus said, I know and you don't, you're going to deny me. So the person, I think it may have been a lady, she said, you were, too, with him. Your speech betrays you. And Peter denied it with an oath. He said, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, I cross my heart and hope to die, if I was with him and I wasn't with him, because he was really a coward underneath. And when Peter, the last of that sentence was out of his mouth, (crowing) the cock crew. That's the way the Bible said, not crow, the cock crew. And it hit Peter. And it said, Jesus looked at him. And you know what Peter did then? He went out and he wept bitterly. Judas betrayed him. Peter denied him. The other ten forsook him like a covey of frightened quails. That's what happened to your master. That's what happened to your Lord. Are you going to do the same thing now that you have their bad record that they did to him? Which of you is going to deny him? Which of you is going to betray him? How many of you are going to forsake him? You shouldn't let somebody like me... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...who mocks you, be able to whip you with that that you say you believe in. And if Jesus was who he purported to be, Satan told the truth when he was tempting him. You can bring an army of angels and they will rescue you so you won't damage your foot against a stone. He could have called down a legion of angels if he wanted to, but he didn't because he had something he had to do. Trying to show you all an example. If there is anything in all that mythological tapestry, it should be, be what you are and what you are should be that which is righteous. And you know what's righteous because he told you and if you don't believe it, don't say you worship him. That's what I have to contend with in this Legislature. He's your friend. He told you greater love has no man than that he lay down his life for his friend. He laid

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down his life for you all based on what you tell somebody like me. He did the greatest thing a friend can do and you all betray him. You deny him. You forsake him. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Time, Senator. [LB46A]

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

SENATOR KRIST: You're recognized to close. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How in the world could you all believe these things and carry on the way you do? You're for the state killing people. You're against providing medication that can give solace, relief from pain and suffering to your veterans and you won't do it. Then you have the nerve to stand up there and pray. You're lucky Jesus doesn't strike you dead. But I notice none of you say what one guy said. May my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth and my right arm lose its cunning if I would betray Jesus. And yet you all did it. You do it every day. You all probably think I'm a lost soul if I had a soul. You're going to let a lost soul stand up here and talk about you like this and you cannot defend yourself because you have no defense. You know why you don't defend yourself, because you're guilty. Guilty as sin. Hypocrites, cowards. Pilate was better than you and he tried to escape from the wrong he did. So let me use the last time that I have on this particular motion to tell you what happened when Jesus was going to meet his end. The Jews had a practice at this time, may have been Passover, one of those bogus days like you all have Halloween and things like that, when they allow a criminal to be freed. So here is Barabbas, charged and convicted of insurrection, murder, and everything you can imagine. Bigger than Senator Groene, taller than Senator McDonnell. (Grrr.) They had chains on him. Two men on one side with chains holding him and two men on the other side with chains holding him so that he couldn't get loose. You look at him and he did everything to get, hold you. Had a big scar going across his face. And so Pilate, wanting to let Jesus go, brought the worst person he could. He said, one of these guys is going to be let go according to your customs. He knew that these religious people would not display their hypocrisy to the point of not doing what was right even under coercion. So which one of them do you want? And the crowd was stunned. So the religious people jumped into that void and said, Barabbas. So then the crowd, the mob said what their leader told them. We want Barabbas. And Pilate was stunned. He said, what shall I do with Jesus? They didn't have an answer. So the leader of the mob said, crucify him. So the multitude said, crucify him. And Pilate said, shall I crucify your king? And the religious people said, don't say he's our king, say he said he's our king. And Pilate had already written king of the Jews and put it up there. They said, say he says he's our king. He's not...Pilate had...he was through with them. He said what I've written, I've written. And it's true. He's your king. And you know why I call him that? He's better than all of you put together. But let's say he's as vicious as you say he

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is, then he's the perfect king of people like you. That's the way they treated the one you all say you worship and you probably... [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: One minute. [LB46A]

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...misty-eyed when a preacher talks about this stuff. You have days when you put smudges on your forehead. The first time I saw that was on somebody down here and I said, you got some dirt on your face and they explained to me that they put that on for religious purposes. I don't know whether it was to ward off the demons or whatever it was, but it was a part of something that they do. They do all of that, but they won't do the main thing. They'll strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. You won't practice what he preached. You know, Jesus probably sent me here to be the whip that he uses against you, to flay you. And what will happen to me? We'll just have to wait and find out, won't we? But if something happens to me, it won't be on the basis of what you are, which is hypocrisy. "I yam what I yam, that's all that I yam." Mr. President, I would ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote. [LB46A]

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

CLERK: 19 ayes, 5 nays to place the house under call. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: 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. Senator Walz, could you check in for me, please? Thank you. Senator Wayne, Senator Riepe, Senator Brewer, please return to the Chamber. The house is under call. We're all here accounted for and Mr. Clerk, roll call vote, regular order. [LB46A]

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal pages 740-741.) 1 aye, 32 nays, Mr. President. [LB46A]

SENATOR KRIST: Motion fails. Raise the call. Mr. Clerk, items. [LB46A]

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Enrollment and Review reports LB133 as correctly engrossed. Government Committee, LB34 to General File; LB68 to General File with amendments; LB127, General File with amendments; LB432, General File with amendments; LB479, General File with amendments. New confirmation report by the Health and Human Services Committee.

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Reference Report regarding gubernatorial appointee. An amendment to LB155, Senator Brasch; Senator Brasch to LB308. New resolution, LR74. That will be laid over. It's offered by Senator Howard. (Legislative Journal pages 741-747.) [LB133 LB34 LB68 LB127 LB432 LB479 LB155 LB308 LR74]

Mr. President, Senator McDonnell would move to adjourn the body until Monday, March 20, at 9:00.

SENATOR KRIST: You've heard the motion. All those in favor, aye. Opposed, nay. We are adjourned until Monday morning at 9:00. Happy St. Patrick's Day and have a safe weekend.