

18257
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(Start of Belt #6)

This is the one time in the history of this state that this legislative body took and can continue to take a responsible stand. There is nothing in 259 that is so emergent that we have to reverse what we did yesterday. For the first time since I've been down here because of the problem connected with federal funds, as far as the government is concerned so we can't lean on all these funds all the time, for the first time, we have 259 which certainly is a tight budget. This gives us an opportunity, not only through federal funds but through state funds, to exactly see what kind of an administrators we have in the state of Nebraska. Now, I think it was responsible and let me say one other thing and you can accuse me of anything you want to, but there are other people in this state that we represent besides those who come down here wanting money, money, money. And I think, and I was home last night at a Chamber of Commerce, there were six or seven other people and nobody was contacting me to the extent that they contacted Senator Barnett, so for the first time, I think it is time to think about some of those people who have to fork up the money all of the time instead of simply thinking about those who for one reason or another can very conveniently come down here and ask us for expenditures. Let's stand up as we said yesterday, not reverse ourselves, and continue as we started yesterday. This is the one time and maybe the last time we have a chance to really take a tight look, a close look at the programs as far as state government is concerned and remember that when 259 passes, even if it doesn't get 33 votes, all it needs is 25 because the bill will be effective by the 20th of July and, as far as I can understand, this is time for the state employees to get paychecks in July. The bill will be effective in July. We will be back here in January. In the interim, it gives us a time in conjunction with the Governor and administrators to take a look as we have never before at these programs. Let's uphold what we did yesterday and stop reversing our procedure.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: Mr. President, I usually like to say that none of this stuff bothers me. My usual rising time is 7:00 A.M., but I got up at 5:00 A.M. this morning because I couldn't sleep and tried to analyze what went on yesterday, and, believe me, it wasn't easy and I doubt if my conclusions are completely correct this morning, because it's a very unusual thing when the gentlemen who represent the Governor, from a philosophical or otherwise point of view in this body, vote to do something and are joined by those people who oppose the Governor. Now, that's unusual, and anyway you slice it that can't be good for the people of this state. There is no possible way. Now, not offe... I say people who represent the Governor I mean people who generally espouse his point of view. Not all of them voted the same way but most of them did. Now, from my own personal point of view, there might be some reasons why I would like to take a powder and run out of here Friday. Take for example, the fluoridation issue, I have been getting some poison pen letters on that from a dentist or two in my district who don't like my position. We could just adjourn and forget all that. We can forget, Senator Carpenter's seemingly suggested yesterday, we can forget about Hiram Scott. I'd like to be taken off the hook on that one. We can forget about abortion in this state. Just forget it for the next so many months until the first of the year. It is my understanding by the Supreme Court ruling, the Supreme Court of the United States, that we have no abortion law at all and that simply means that you can... a woman can abort through the ninth month of pregnancy. Now, we can