

January 16, 1981

LR 5

The Executive Board in Room 1517 at 11:00 a.m. this morning.

PRESIDENT: We are ready then to proceed with agenda item #4 on resolutions, LR 5, Mr. Clerk, if you would read the resolution.

CLERK: Read LR 5 as found on page 192 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, you may recall when the Governor gave his address the other day he mentioned the importance on a state level of expanding our sphere of contact and influence with Asian and European countries, even mentioned setting up an office in Tokyo which I certainly hope will be done. This past summer, ten of the members of the Nebraska Legislature, as most of you know, made a trip to Taiwan, Republic of China, to study their economy, to study their business activity, to learn about their feelings towards us and quite frankly, to express to them our keen desire as a state to maintain relations on an agricultural and economic basis of marketing our products to them. At the time we went there the five year trade agreement was about to expire. It has now expired. We met with the highest officials of that government and arranged for them to come here in March on a buying trip, and by here I mean to Nebraska, and they will be here in March and we hope another delegation from Nebraska will be going back to Taiwan next year or I mean this year, this summer I would hope. As most of you know we have no official diplomatic relations with the Republic of China as a country any more. So about the only contact that that country has with this country is on a state level with state officials and state government. Nebraska has been the single most active state in the United States in maintaining this contact and maintaining economic relations. One of the things discussed between us and the Secretary of State or the equivalent to the Secretary of State of Taiwan was the firming and solidifying of that relationship between Nebraska and Taiwan by declaring that in a resolution here as a sister state. That is what the resolution does and I would hope you would pass it. It is an expression that we want to maintain our relations with that country and continue to export our agricultural products there. It is my understanding that we are now firming up an agreement for the next five years that will more than double the agricultural exports of the previous five years with Taiwan.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.