

those lengths of trains, and if they are going to use them, to make certain that the crossings are not blocked more than a specified length of time in their statutes or in the various city ordinances across this state. I would ask for the adoption of this resolution, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I passed out two articles dealing with the problem we had here in Lincoln about...I guess it was almost three weeks ago. We had a situation where two very long trains and both on Monday afternoon broke down right across, down by the penitentiary, down there by Highway 77 and South 9th Street. For two hours traffic was blocked and late in the afternoon when the heaviest traffic flow is. It was an awful situation. The train that broke down was over 200 cars long. And, obviously, blocked the intersection for more than ten minutes in violation of the state law. I think it is clear that we can get to a point of being ridiculous in terms of the long trains. In this city and other cities we have many crossings in which a train has to go and we are willing to see that happen, obviously they are very important, but, this is ridiculous to go this far. I think the resolution makes sense. We have had a serious problem in Lincoln and I'm sure other towns in the state have had similar experiences and we ought to at least send a warning and an indication of concern to the railroads to try and not have that repeated.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson. May I announce, I have been asked to announce, in Room 2102 between eleven today and noon, there is a reception for Dale Godfrey that many of you know. So those of you who would like may wish to drop in at 2102 between now and noon. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I, too, rise in support of this resolution. I think as most of you know I probably somewhat have a personal interest in this and I want to bring that out. I contacted the Burlington-Northern Railroad about a week ago on this very same matter, of concern to my area, as well as the crossings in the rural area, the same thing that Senator Lamb has. I pointed out the concern of the employees and their safety as well as the length of the trains. As most of you...if you are farmers or so on or most of us know that the slack in a