

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chronister, would you like to go on LR 8, please.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Members, of course, my purpose in introducing resolution number 8 is to commend the Beemer Public Schools in the action they have taken this last year in regard to salaries. Let me read a portion of the resolution. "Whereas in an effort to hold their budget down the Beemer Public School teaching staff returned this school year for the same base pay they received last year, and administrators and all nonteaching personnel also returned for the same salary as last year; Whereas the Beemer School District's valuation went down by \$5,930, even though the district had a transfer of a small portion of land into the district; Whereas despite these sacrifices and less than desirable circumstances the Beemer school has consistently maintained the quality of its school and programs reflected by the 53 percent of the senior class members, over the last four years, who have taken ACT tests and scored an accumulative average of 21.8, 10 former students who attended the University of Nebraska last year who maintained a grade point average of 3.25, and the fact that approximately 80 percent of the school's graduates have attended a college, university or trade school and 90 percent have completed such additional schooling." Actually my purpose is two-fold in introducing this resolution. Besides the fact that I think they should be commended for making this sacrifice, I think they should serve as an example for the other school districts in the entire state. I would invite Mr. Schimek and the Nebraska State School Association, Justin King and Dale Siefkes and the State School Boards to send the word out to the other teachers, superintendents and school boards in the state that it would be commendable if they, likewise, would take such an action. These are abnormal times. It demands sacrifices. I think we, in the rural areas, are especially aware of this when every month we have major businesses closing in our towns. Businesses who have been in existence for 50 years are closing their doors. I think the cities will soon feel this as a lot of these people from the rural areas are going to Omaha and Lincoln seeking jobs. Believe me, with this great exodus to the cities it will soon be felt. I urge you all to help me in commending the Beemer School District. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any further discussion on the resolution?