

PRESIDENT: Can we have order in the Chamber, please. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign engrossed LB 29, 5, 7, and 7A, the appropriations bill for LB 7. The Chair recognizes Senator Warner. (Gavel.) Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am tempted, I am really tempted and what I am tempted to do, and I know I won't, is let you have what you bought. There are very few days it is my privilege to serve in this body that I would say was a pivotal day in Nebraska's future. There has been a handful. Today exceeds any opportunity that I have had to watch the future of a state decided. We had a lot of figures thrown at us this morning. By and large, I would categorically say that those things that were said about the income tax have been pretty well disproved, that is the figures that it was erroneous to assume that there was no impact with the federal tax code changes and the rate of 20 or thereabouts. I didn't speak on some of those other ones but others have already pointed out that the accurate information was, in fact, the information that was used. Senator Hannibal did an excellent job of laying out what you have had several times before, where we are at. We hear about the impact of economic development if we have a 1 percent increase this year. I remember all the tax exemptions we did. That was going to make economic development. I remember reading everything that all the rest of you have read that points out if you don't have adequate services, that hurts economic development. The question I guess...we have all been asked the question, what is going to happen on LB 33 the last few days. And I have always had the same answer and somehow or other I still think it is going to be true before this day is over and that is that I have tremendous confidence in the institution of the Legislature and I know as everybody in here knows that the consequences of not enacting certainly LB 35 but also LB 3, as a matter of fact, are more severe than you want to be held accountable for. There will be \$40 million of program elimination next year. Don't ever think it won't. And you are going to hurt vital services, the very services that those who advocate a strengthening of our economy also understand has to be there and they are going to be gone. It is really kind of a privilege to be here today when I think about it. It is a tremendous responsibility. One little finger, I can push a button and