

November 15, 1985

him. Is Senator Chambers being found? If not, I'll appoint some other person to go over. Okay. If Senator Chambers comes we'll have him as an honorary escort. Senator Eret, would you mind joining the committee and escorting the Governor across. The committee will now go fetch the Governor. Do you want to make a comment, Senator Warner? May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, it was just to announce or request the Appropriations Committee to meet in Room 1003 fifteen minutes after adjournment.

PRESIDENT: Appropriations Committee is to meet in Room 1003 after adjournment. The Chair recognizes the Sergeant-at-Arms.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mr. President, your committee now escorting The Honorable Robert Kerrey, Governor of the State of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: Will the committee escort the Governor to the front of the Chamber, please. The Chair has the honor to present the Governor of the State of Nebraska.

GOVERNOR KERREY: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature, in my judgement none of the efforts of the past five weeks have been easy. There have been people on the outside that have assumed that most of the things that have been debated and have been discussed have been somehow relatively easy for all of you to do. But the issues have been issues of great controversy. Transferring monies from the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund is a very controversial issue. Reducing important and favorite government programs is a controversial and difficult thing to do. The raising of income tax, obviously, is not an easy thing for us to do. Consideration of the expansion of the sales tax, the increase of the cigarette tax, all of these things are difficult. In fact let me make two general observations about this particular special session. First, the debating of budget cuts and tax increases is not only the least favorite thing for all of us elected politicians to do, but the discussion itself tends to reduce our morale. I have even noticed with alarm that my own usually cheerful disposition has been deteriorating lately into a mood of