

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Floor Debate February 6, 2025

KELLY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the twenty-first day of the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain for the day is Pastor John Schnell, Encounter Life Church, Mead, Nebraska, in Senator Storm's district. Please rise.

JOHN SCHNELL: Let us pray. Almighty God and Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I pray first of all, that your Holy name will be honored and held in high regard in this Chamber. Heavenly Father, together we come before you in humility as people who are willfully out of step with you and in need of your forgiveness. I give you praise and thanks that you are good and your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, reveal to us our sins and forgive us according to your mercy, your goodness, your healing, and your grace. Today, I pray that you bring a spirit of humility to the men and women of this Chamber, and in that you would strengthen them to put your eternal truth ahead of self, to put the good of the people ahead of lobbyists' interests, to put integrity ahead of political survival, to put honesty ahead of headlines, and to put servanthood ahead of personal, personal acclamation. Elohim, the all powerful one, you've watched over our nation through various times of peace, prosperity, turmoil, and war; may the members of this assembly continue to look to you today; may they be persons who seek your faith, search out your truth, and who pursue your wisdom. Today, reward any who draw near to you; may they receive the revelation they need and the fullness of your blessing; grant them a spirit of wisdom, the fear of the Lord, and the courage to act by the Council of the Lord on all matters great and small. Lastly, Holy Spirit, bless these senators and their families, bring them health, give them your joy and peace. Oh, God, fill this place with your presence and unite us in your truth and under your leadership. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

KELLY: I recognize Senator Lonowski for the Pledge of Allegiance.

LONOWSKI: Please join me. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

KELLY: I call to order the twenty-first day of the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session. Senators, the network is presently down. Your buttons will not work and the board will not show so please let the Clerk know your presence by raising a hand. Thank you. Record, Mr. Clerk.

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CLERK: Mr. President, there's a quorum present.

KELLY: Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections this morning, sir.

KELLY: Are there any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: There are, Mr. President. Your Committee on Urban Affairs, chaired by Senator McKinney, reports LB240, LB286, LB289, LB290 to General File. Additionally, your Committee on Banking, Commerce and Insurance reports LB241, LB293, LB527, LB609 to General File, some having committee amendments. Notice of hearing from the Judiciary Committee, as well as communication from the governor concerning an appointment to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Kurt Arganbright. An additional communication from the governor appointing Chuck Hutchison to the Nebraska Power Review Board, and a reappointment of a member to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, as well as a communication from the governor concerning an appointment to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Amendments to be printed from Senator Hardin to LB118; Senator Rountree, a motion to withdraw LB574. That will be printed in the Journal. The Education Committee will meet in executive session now under the south balcony; Education Committee, exec session-- oh, I'm sorry-- Education Committee, exec session now in 2022; Room 2022, exec session, Education Committee now. The Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee will be having an exec session under the south balcony at 11:00; Banking, Commerce, and Insurance, exec session, 11:00, under the south balcony. That's all I have at this time, Mr. President.

KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR34. Senator Bosn would like to recognize the physician of the day, Dr. Weiss of Lincoln. Please stand and be recognized by your Nebraska Legislature. Mr. Clerk, for an announcement.

CLERK: Mr. President, with the understanding that the network is currently down, the Legislature will stand at ease until 10:30 per instruction from the Speaker of the Legislature. Legislature stand at ease until 10:30, at which point we'll reevaluate.

KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk

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KELLY: Speaker Arch would like to recognize some guests who are in the north balcony. They are physicians, residents, and student members of the Nebraska Medical Association. Please stand and be recognized by the Nebraska Legislature. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB208, LB108, LB21, LB187, LB197, and LB229 to Select File. Additionally, amendments to be printed to LB182 from Senator Bostar, and notice of committee hearing from the Natural Resources Committee. Announcement: the Business and Labor Committee will meet in executive session today at 11:00 in Room 2022; Business and Labor, 11:00, Room 2022. The Government Committee will have an executive session immediately following their hearing today in Room 1507; Government Committee today, Room 1507 after the hearing. Notice that the Business and Labor Committee will meet in Room 1524 on February 10, 2025, instead of Room 2102; Business and Labor, 1524, instead of Room 2102 on February 10.

KELLY: Mr. Clerk, for an announcement.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Just providing notice via the Speaker of Legislature. The system is still down. Members, committee hearings operate off of the recorder, so we will have a transcript. There shouldn't be anything hooked up to the network in terms of your committee hearing. So at this time, 1:30, committees will operate as usual. So 1:30, committee hearings. Finally, Mr. President, a priority motion, Senator Dorn would move to adjourn the body until Friday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m.

KELLY: Members, you've heard the motion to adjourn. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed, nay. The Legislature is adjourned.