

(start belt #1)

Mr. President, members of the legislature, I have a couple of announcements. I announced the other day that we were going to have a meeting of anybody that has an interest in LB782, that's a fire inspection bill for schools and public buildings. We are going to meet this afternoon at 1:00 in room 2227. I have another announcement yesterday Senator Elrod introduced to you Dr. Joseph Cassidy, representing the education commission of the state. He is under the north balcony and would be happy to visit with any of you privately this morning. He has agreed after conversations with the education committee to meet at 1:00 in the east chamber to discuss with Senators and any other interested persons the ramifications of several recent court decisions that are going to have a real impact on Nebraska as well as all the other states as far as the support of education is concerned. I think you all know that there was a case in California and one in Texas and more recently one in New Jersey that could have a real impact on our total tax picture in this state. If any of you have any interest at all Dr. Cassidy will visit with you at 1:00 in the east chamber.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Just a little addition, I think that Senator Swanson wanted to invite anybody else that wanted to attend. Oh did you, I didn't catch that. I think that Nebraska is very vulnerable on this issue and I do hope that you have the pick up the knowledge that the education commission did yesterday on this subject at hand so attend if you possibly can.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Fred Carstens did you wish to be recognized? Senator Keyes?

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President, like the other gentlemen I do believe that you should talk to this gentleman and find out just exactly what is happening over this nation of ours and also to bring you up to date there is a case in the district court, going to be filed in the district court of Nebraska. Now, if they choose to, they can tie up all the funds of every school district in the state of Nebraska as being unconstitutional in the way in which they are levied. I don't think they are going to do that but they could, and we could stop education within a week. I don't think we want to do that as legislators we want to do what is right and not let the courts of this nation or the courts of this state decide how we are going to finance education. This is the primary responsibility of the legislature. They created the school districts and they have operated very effectively until now, and now the time has come when the (inaudible) in the state of Nebraska must be changed. This is all I have to say.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I'd just like to notify the body that the Government Committee will meet at 1:15 in order to consider the bills we have already considered. It will be in the regular meeting place.