

March 28, 1984

PRESIDENT MCGINLEY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: (Mike not turned on immediately.) ...is the Chaplain this morning, Senator Chris Beutler. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: My friends, my prayer is short. Allow me to preface it with a short reading. It is a great churchman's explanation of why he became involved in the sea of politics. The explanation takes the form of a dialogue between the churchman and the Lord. "The Lord has driven my boat into the open sea. The wind drives me forward and the Lord forbids my return. I communed last night with the Lord and said, pity me, oh, Lord, lead me back to my haven. Is impossible. See you not that the wind is contrary? I will preach, Lord, if so I must but why need I meddle with the government of Florence? If thou wouldst made Florence a holy city thou must establish her on firm foundations and give her a government that favors virtue. But, Lord, I am not sufficient for these things. Knowest thou not that God chooses the weak of this world to confound the mighty? Thou art the instrument. I am the doer. Then I was convinced and cried, Lord, I will do thy will. Let me die as thou didst die for me. Then he said, wait yet a while, let that be done which must be done, then arm thyself with courage." Let us pray. Lord, arm us with courage this day to do thy will to make this state a holy state, to establish it upon a firmer foundation and to give it a government that favors virtue. Amen.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. Members, please record your presence. Roll call. Members will please come to the Chamber for the beginning of the legislative day and record your presence. Record the roll, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: There is a quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Quorum present, the Legislature is in session. Corrections to the Journal, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.