

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: Please rise and be led in invocation by Dr. Robert Palmer of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

DR. PALMER: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you, Dr. Palmer, again. Roll call, please.

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

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Do we have any corrections to the Journal this morning?

CLERK: No corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Do you have any messages, reports, or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, an Agriculture and Environment confirmation hearing is scheduled for today at ten o'clock. That is signed by Senator Rod Johnson.

Mr. President, LR 3 and LR 4 are ready for your signature.

SPEAKER NICHOL: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 3 and LR 4. (Gavel.) If I could have your attention for a moment, please. We have very special guests over under the north balcony. Senator Loran Schmit has a couple of guests over there. One is Mr. Mohamane Diko (phonetic), the Governor of the Fifth Region of Mali, and with him is his escort, of the United States Department, Mr. Marshal Lamathie (phonetic), who is the contract escort and interpreter. Would you please welcome them to the Legislature. Thank you, we appreciate your being here this morning. Thank you very much. We'll move on to LR 5.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 5, offered by Senator Hartnett, found on page 94 of the Journal. (Read.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, if I can get your attention. It won't be too long, as normal.