

January 13, 1993

tough budget times. Together we've delivered. Focusing on the three E's, economic development, environment and education, we're seizing control of Nebraska's economy. Together we're making real progress on our economic agenda. Our development policy is supporting businesses, communities and their leaders in the pursuit of sustained economic growth, trade missions to the Middle East and the Pacific Rim are paying dividends for agriculture and other Nebraska businesses. The Governor's Rural Development Commission and the Office of Urban Affairs are both focusing their efforts on community-based progress. Whether in Omaha or Cambridge, Scottsbluff or Falls City, success is community-based and enterprise-focused. State government is the junior partner, but we can be and we will be an active partner. Together we're making real progress on our environmental agenda. We've handed Nebraskans a new tool for lasting contributions to our quality of life through the Environmental Trust Fund. LB 1257 has led 91 of our 93 counties and nearly 90 percent of our communities to outline environmentally sound waste management plans that meet both local and regional needs. An invigorated state recycling program has placed Nebraska second in the nation in the use of recycled paper, and we're pushing hard to become first. Together we've developed an action plan for energy conservation, implementing ideas from converting state vehicles to alternate fuels, to enhancing the Dollar and Energy Saving Loan Program. Together, after a decade with no solution, we've delivered to the feds a Nebraska solution for the relicensing of Kingsley Dam. We're moving ahead with a lawsuit against Wyoming on flows in the North Platte River. Our case is strong; it's being presented in front of the United States Supreme Court this morning. Water wars with neighboring states are unpleasant, but we will protect our water. Together we've delivered a voice to Boyd County voters for their own destiny. Community consent does not exist and the Attorney General will file a lawsuit today in Federal District Court to force removal of Boyd County from consideration as the dump site. In the meantime, I'm asking the Legislature to strike language that requires the state to take title to any waste stored in the low-level dump, if and when it's built. This action will help protect the state from liability. But safety will continue to be our top priority. Together we're making real progress on our education agenda. The Education Innovation Fund opens a host of opportunities for new ideas in education. Fourteen communities are now part of our Nebraska 2000 initiative, and dozens more are developing improvement plans for High Performance Learning. My experience as chair of the