

April 15, 1994

made it known that the business of passing the buck stops here. Due to our work on the budget, we approach the next biennium on solid fiscal ground which is necessary to prevent tax increases and I want to thank all of you for your hard work during the Ninety-Third Legislature. Working together as one Nebraska, we've accomplished much. By continuing to work together we can accomplish much more. We must begin work immediately on issues which will be before this body next year. We've crafted a sound budget, however, we must continue to find ways to deliver government services more efficiently and continue to prioritize those services. Simply put, the state cannot be all things to all people. For example, we must come back next year and find a steady and consistent source of funding for teachers' salaries. Also, we must continue our work to fight crime in Nebraska. Crime will not go away and we must not go away from our responsibility to promote the health, safety and welfare of Nebraska citizens. Unfunded and under-funded federal mandates such as Medicaid put enough strain on our budget. We must not add to that strain ourselves. We must pay as we go and it is painful. At this time I bid a fond farewell to Senators Ashford, Byars, Haberman and Moore who will not be back for sure next session. In the meantime, good luck to all of you, thank you, and my best wishes.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Governor. If the Legislature would, if the members would take their seats, we have a few closing activities before the Ninety-Third legislative session ends. To begin that the Chair would like to recognize Senator Tim Hall.

**SENATOR HALL:** Thank you, Mr. President and members. As many of you know, Carl Kamprath is retiring and some of us are delighted with that. If you've ever had Karl grab you from the back and pinch your nerve to get you to sit in your seat, you'll understand that, but at the same time we're a little bit saddened because it won't be the same around here without Karl. He has been with the Legislature in some capacity nearly 25 years, since 19...or excuse me, nearly 20 years, since 1975 and now he's going to retire full-time I guess, Karl. All we're doing is wishing you the best here. We'll miss you very much. That token of our appreciation is a signed photograph of the Capitol, the watercolor print that many of them were signed as you saw, from all the members of the Legislature. We just want to wish you all the best in your retirement and stop back and see us some time.