

# Daily Nebraskan

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Wednesday	
WEATHER	INDEX
Wednesday, mostly sunny and breezy, high around 60, north wind 10-20 miles per hour. Wednesday night, partly cloudy, low around 30. Thursday, mostly cloudy, breezy and colder, high 45-50.	News ..... 2 Editorial ..... 4 Sports ..... 6 Arts & Entertainment ..... 9 Classifieds ..... 11

Reconsideration successful

## 9 bills meet deadline, advance to second round

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

With just enough votes, 30, the Nebraska Legislature on Tuesday voted to suspend the rules and advanced nine bills, one of them dealing with abortion, to a second round of consideration.

Tuesday was the last day for bills on the first round of consideration to be advanced to a second round of debate. Only three days remain in the legislative session.

Senators usually advance bills twice before voting on their fate in final reading.

State Sen. Bernice Labeledz of Omaha moved to suspend the rules to change

the speaker's agenda so that the nine bills could be advanced at once without further debate, motions or amendments. The nine bills had been scheduled for separate consideration.

Labeledz said she was worried that senators wouldn't have enough time to consider the bills if they were not advanced together. She said



the bills are important and should be given a chance.

Several controversial bills were involved:  
● LB976, stiffening drug penalties.  
● LB854, requiring a woman planning to have an abortion to sign a statement saying she knows the consequences of her decision. After signing the statement, the woman would have to wait 24 hours before having the abortion.

● LB1062, authorizing drug or alcohol testing of applicants for employment.  
● LB866, authorizing a reduction in property tax valuations.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha provided the main opposition to Labeledz' motion.

"The bill that is the underlying reason for this is LB854, and we all know this," Chambers said.

Such a motion would be "just putting off to another day what ought to be fought here today," he said.

Sen. Loran Schmit of Bellwood supported the motion, but said "it isn't really going to make much difference" because senators also will be pressed for time when the bills come up for second-round debate. The argument that the bills are very important isn't as much of a

consideration, he said.

"All bills are important just as all babies are beautiful," Schmit said, defending all senators' priority bills. "I can place no higher priority than on protecting those who cannot protect themselves."

The motion is "just one more base" and does not constitute a home run, he said. Schmit said he wanted the bill to advance directly to final reading.

Sen. Howard Lamb of Anselmo said the motion is proper because Speaker Bill Barrett of Lexington had a motion up for the afternoon that would suspend amendments, motions and debate on a series of bills on final reading. That motion included the controversial LB1059, dealing with school financing.

Barrett said, however, that he did not see the association between this motion and his on final reading.

"My purpose in life is to keep the agenda moving," Barrett said, and senators already had debated the bills on final reading.

Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha supported the motion.

"This is a hell of a way to do business, obviously, but I'm going to support it," Lynch said. "I might as well join in the stupidity along

with everyone else . . ."

Sen. Jacklyn Smith of Hastings said she wasn't willing to go along with the stupidity.

The Legislature should not follow bad legislative procedures, such as Friday's filibuster, she said.

"I haven't been very proud to be a member of this body the past few days," Smith said. "I am ashamed of us."

Chambers said, "The abortion issue has tinged and embittered everything about this session."

The motion, which needed 30 votes to be successful, originally was defeated with only 28 votes. Labeledz moved for reconsideration and was successful. The motion then passed 30-16.

Chambers moved to again reconsider the vote, but was unsuccessful.

The Legislature then considered the motion to advance the nine bills to select file.

"We're down to the muscle and the bone" of the issue, Chambers said. The Legislature's action in approving the motion would be "not illegal, but irresponsible."

Schmit urged senators to vote their convictions. On a 30-15 vote, they advanced the bills.

## Senator's motion suspends rules to break logjam

By Roger Price  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Legislature voted again to suspend the rules Tuesday afternoon to "break the logjam" that earlier filibusters over abortion and school financing have caused.

Speaker Bill Barrett of Lexington moved to suspend the rules to allow final consideration of 20 bills without amendments or debate.

Barrett said he made the motion to keep bills moving in the legislative process.

All the bills covered in the motion had been debated and amended twice on the floor of the legislature, Barrett said.

Barrett said he was concerned about this session and the entire legislative process breaking down.

"This is a chance to partially put the system back together," he said.

State Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha opposed suspending the rules because he said some of the bills affected by the motion need additional consideration.

Sen. Rod Johnson of Sutton said the Legislature is "playing fast and loose with the rules."

Johnson said the motion was a result of senators starting to get nervous as they "waste away the time" remaining in the session.

Sen. Howard Lamb of Anselmo said that although he supported suspending the rules in the morning session, he was opposed to Barrett's motion.

Lamb said bills advanced out of general file still are debated two more times, and problems can be corrected. Final reading, he said, is the last chance senators have to correct problems.

The morning suspension allowed nine bills on general file, the first round of consideration to be advanced to select file, the second round of consideration, without debate or amendments.

Barrett's motion provided for 20 bills on final reading to be considered individually without debate or amendments.

Once a bill is passed out of final reading, it is either signed or vetoed by the governor.

Barrett's motion to suspend the



David Fahleson/Daily Nebraskan

UNL junior Phillip Walton examines his pickup Thursday morning after hitting a motorcycle on 17th and R streets. Kevin Coulson, the rider of the motorcycle, was taken to Lincoln General Hospital. Coulson, 36, was conscious and not seriously injured, said Bruce Craig, a driver for Eastern Paramedic Ambulance service. The 1982 Chevrolet pickup was making a left turn from 17th Street when it struck Coulson's 1982 Kawasaki, which stopped in the eastbound left turn lane on R Street. Walton said he turned the corner too short while watching for other traffic and hit the motorcycle. "I saw the traffic coming through the light and didn't see him," Walton said.

## Officials work to increase gasohol use at UNL

By Todd Neeley  
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials are working to increase gasohol use in the university's state vehicles, said Ray Coffey, UNL business manager.

Coffey said for the "past few months" he has been encouraging university employees to use gasohol while traveling on official business.

In addition, the university will eliminate all tanks containing fuel without added alcohol at its pumps on City Campus. One pump of regular

unleaded gasoline will be left on East Campus for older vehicles and agriculture equipment, Coffey said.

Gasohol should be used in state vehicles that were made no earlier than 1985, Coffey said.

Older vehicles and agriculture equipment on campus can use gaso-

hol, he said, but they were not made to burn the fuel and it isn't recommended.

Because Nebraska's economy is based on agriculture, Coffey said, it is important to use the state's resources.

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