

Journal of the Senate

FIFTH DAY

SENATE CHAMBER, TOPEKA, KANSAS
Friday, January 17, 2003—9:00 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by Vice President John Vratil.
The roll was called with twenty-two senators present.
Senators Barnett, Barone, Brownlee, Brungardt, Corbin, Feleciano, Gilstrap, Harrington, Kerr, Lyon, O'Connor, Oleen, Pugh, Schodorf, Taddiken, Teichman, Tyson and Wagle were excused.

Invocation by Chaplain Fred S. Hollomon:

Heavenly Father,

We are facing a tough session;
No doubt involving stress
Which tends to reap the worst
Instead of what is best.

There'll be disagreements;
Possibly some severe,
Which could alienate
Colleagues gathered here.

Lord, help me not to lose my cool
And say things I'll regret;
For fits of temper can result
In events no one forgets.

I recall that You got angry, Lord,
And the reason was quite simple:
Money changers were exploiting
Worshippers in the temple.

Help me control my temper, Lord,
And vent it only when
People are taking advantage of
Victims I can defend.

But when the tension's running high,
And angry words are flowing free,
I pray that it will only
Bring out the best in me.

I pray in Jesus' Name,

AMEN

REMARKS BY SENATOR HALEY

Senator Haley rose on a point of personal privilege to deliver the following remarks:

It is evident, that the greatest of meanings for some of our state and national holidays are today more often lost to misinterpretation, or commercialism, or even exploitation.

Look at us. Listen to our subtle messages to our children and to the world. A “good Thanksgiving” . . . gratitude for blessings; safe harbor; a bountiful harvest . . . is today a testimony for massive consumption, binging, over eating. And, isn't it sad somehow to ask many young people, some now parents themselves, for the “true meaning of Christmas” and hear no mention of the birth of Jesus Christ in their responses; or to see the “Happy” in many, so many New Year's celebrations equal only revelry and drunkenness . . .

Today, as we approach the holiday weekend named for the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I implore you each to *not* let this trend for diluting, and twisting holiday meanings continue for *this* holiday. For nine years now, the Kansas Legislature has first allowed, and now it appears, simply indulged my annual earnest plea of each of you. Last year during my statewide campaign for Secretary of State, I met many Kansans from all walks of life. These good Kansans, many of them your constituents and mine, worked collectively toward positive community betterment. Today, let us remember that this holiday seeks to find their good and praise it . . .

Any good obituary never reflects life's deeds of hatred or separation. As the “reality” of a collective struggle for universal human dignity in America fades too quickly into cyberspace, or television gamesmanship, or some other “virtual” form, might we resolve as leaders, as public servants, to keep this holiday's meaning real; true to form?

As the backdrop of the skits and the songs and the sermons on justice and brotherhood is drowned out by unilateral saber-rattling (not only, deservedly, against one cave-man in Afghanistan) but now aggressively on our brothers and sisters in Iraq and in North Korea and soon it seems somewhere else . . . what meaning does this Holiday really hold . . . Is there really a holiday in Kansas or is there really a holiday in America where peace, unity, and brotherhood are celebrated all throughout the land . . . ?

Help us. Help Kansas to keep it real . . . the dream of nonviolence . . . use your power members of the Senate to keep the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday . . . the dream of a united America . . . real.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to Committees as indicated:

Federal and State Affairs: **SB 24.**

Financial Institutions & Insurance: **SB 26.**

Judiciary: **SB 25, SB 27, SB 28, SB 29.**

Ways and Means: **SB 30.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

December 17, 2002

Michael Moser, MD, MPH, Director, Division of Health, submitted the Annual Legislative Report on HIV Infections and Reporting in Kansas, prepared by the Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention in accordance with statute.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Division of Purchases

January 15, 2003

John T. Houlihan, Director, submitted the Status Report on Reverse Auction Pilot Project to the Kansas Legislature.

The Vice President announced the above reports are on file in the office of the Secretary of the Senate and are available for review at any time.

REPORT ON ENROLLED BILLS

SR 1803 reported correctly enrolled, properly signed and presented to the Secretary of the Senate on January 17, 2003.

On motion of Senator Donovan the Senate adjourned until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2003.

HELEN A. MORELAND, *Journal Clerk*.

PAT SAVILLE, *Secretary of Senate*.

