

Second Day of Legislative Organizational Session**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE****Sixty-third Legislative Assembly**

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Bismarck, December 4, 2012

The Senate convened at 9:00 a.m., with President Wrigley presiding.

The prayer was offered by Pastor Paul Gibson of First Baptist Church, Bismarck.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Anderson and G. Lee.

A quorum was declared by the President.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the Senate stand in recess until 9:10 a.m., at which time there will be a Joint Session in the House, and that the Senate will then stand in recess until 1:15 p.m., which motion prevailed.

THE SENATE RECONVENED pursuant to recess taken, with President Wrigley presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT

PRESIDENT WRIGLEY ANNOUNCED a presentation on legislative ethics and laws and rules governing the activities and conduct of public officials by Jay E. Buringrud, Director of Legal Services, Legislative Council.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the remarks of Majority Leader Wardner and Minority Leader Schneider be printed in the journal, which motion prevailed.

REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER WARDNER

I am very proud of the people in this Chamber who sit in the chairs. I have dealt with many of you in past political campaigns and it really is like the Army-Navy football game, where they battle on the football field, but then fight and work together for the United States of America. The campaigns are over and now we need to work for the betterment of the State of North Dakota. We in the Senate need to set an example for all! Integrity, honesty, objectivity, building public trust and being impartial in our decisions are traits we need to display.

I as a leader need to be held to the highest standard if I expect others to be ethical. I as a leader need to treat all people with respect, dignity, honesty, integrity, fairness and compassion.

This Chamber in my years here has always encouraged high ethical standards. It is a privilege for each one of us to serve in the North Dakota Senate. We should not allow our private interests to overshadow our public responsibility.

Don't do anything behind the scenes that you would not do publicly where all can see.

REMARKS OF MINORITY LEADER SCHNEIDER

Mr. President, we are on the verge of a legislative session where we will have many healthy debates about how to meet the critical needs facing our state and capitalize on North Dakota's tremendous opportunities. However, there should be no debate about right or wrong when it comes to upholding our positions of public trust. As Albert Einstein supposedly said, "Relativity applies to physics, not ethics".

We are given, by the people of North Dakota, the privilege and responsibility of making the laws. They rightly expect us to be held to a higher standard. We should therefore always be mindful that anything any one of us does has an impact on the reputation of this institution in which we are all honored to serve and that the people should be able to trust without exception.

So let us pay strict attention to the ethical rules that we have set for ourselves, but let us also embrace those unwritten rules that all of us intrinsically know to be right: fairness, trustworthiness and collegiality. Those basic principles will not only produce the best legislative results as we move forward with this important session, but it will also make for a government that is deserving of the scrupulously honest North Dakota citizens who elect us.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the absent members be excused, which motion prevailed.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the Senate stand adjourned until 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 5, 2012, which motion prevailed.