

Journal of the Senate

THIRTY-NINTH DAY

SENATE CHAMBER, TOPEKA, KANSAS
Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 2:30 p.m.

The Senate was called to order by President Ty Masterson.

The roll was called with 39 senators present.

Senator Thompson was excused.

President Masterson introduced guest chaplain, Doug Henkle, who delivered the following invocation:

Father God, in Your word You instruct us to fix our thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right and pure and lovely, and admirable. You admonish us to think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Father, cause us to fix our attention on things that are not unreal, far-fetched dreams, but things that are true; not cheap, flippant, superficial things, but things that are honorable; not things that are wrong and unjust, but that which is right; not things that promote arguments and defense in others, but those that are agreeable; not slander, gossip, and put-downs, but information of good report, the kind that builds up and causes grace to flow. May we consider what our thoughts are fixed on today.

Father, You care about all the details of our lives including the issues before this legislative body this afternoon. You care about every word spoken. Cause this body to strive for resolution where there's conflict, to know when to give way and when to hold the line, to listen twice as much as they speak and may they listen well.

I pray for Your peace today which is far beyond our understanding. I ask that You give each Senator wisdom as they argue their position. I lift up President Masterson, Vice President Shallenburger, Majority Leader Blasi and Minority Leader Sykes to You, Give them Your direction as they lead this chamber.

I pray that at the end of the day the deliberations in this chamber would lead to sound decisions that would honor You, blessing all Kansans. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Masterson.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

SB 296, AN ACT concerning the department of revenue; eliminating certain tax credits, exemptions, incentives, refunds and limitations, a transitional adjustment, a checkoff and a restoration program administered by the secretary that have expired or are no longer applicable; providing certain technical changes to remove or modify statutory cross references; amending K.S.A. 74-50,136, 74-8947, 75-3712, 75-4275, 79-225, 79-255 and 79-32,140a and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 79-32,117, 79-32,143a and 79-

32,160a; also repealing K.S.A. 75-3713e, 79-201h, 79-1705, 79-3221f, 79-3288a, 79-32,117a, 79-32,117b, 79-32,117c, 79-32,117d, 79-32,117e, 79-32,140, 79-32,160b, 79-32,181, 79-32,181a, 79-32,192, 79-32,193, 79-32,206, 79-32,214, 79-32,215, 79-32,238, 79-32,239, 79-32,240, 79-32,241, 79-32,244, 79-32,257, 79-32,258, 79-32,259, 79-32,260, 79-32,262, 79-32,264 and 79-32,272 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 79-32,203, by Committee on Assessment and Taxation.

SB 297, AN ACT concerning employment; providing for local government control over wages, compensation and benefits for construction projects; amending K.S.A. 12-16,132 and 19-26,114 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 12-16,131, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to Committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2111**.

Commerce: **HB 2400**.

Federal and State Affairs: **SB 295**.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

Senators Titus, Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Thompson, Tyson, Ware and Warren introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read:

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1714—

A RESOLUTION recognizing the members of Kansas Task Force 1 for their outstanding efforts as responders during Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

WHEREAS, During the fall of 2024, the Southeastern states of the United States were pummeled by back-to-back Hurricanes Helene and Milton; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Task Force 1 was deployed to Florida, Georgia and North Carolina to help with hurricane relief efforts; and

WHEREAS, The members of Kansas Task Force 1 helped local teams with search and rescues, set up mobile hospitals, provided basic life support medical care, transported humans and animals to the nearest location for secondary air or land transport and assisted with relief efforts; and

WHEREAS, Members of Kansas Task Force 1 conducted rescue operations in areas under extremely difficult and grim conditions; and

WHEREAS, The 36 responders deployed represent 22 agencies across Kansas, including Chanute Fire Department, Cherryvale Fire Department, Derby Fire Department, Johnson County MED-ACT, Junction City Fire Department, Manhattan Fire Department, Neodesha Fire Department, Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center, Olathe Fire Department, Salina Fire Department, Sedgwick County Fire Department, Shawnee Fire Department, Wichita Fire Department and the Office of the State Fire Marshal: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we recognize the members

of the Kansas Task Force 1 for their outstanding efforts as responders during Hurricanes Helene and Milton; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send 37 enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Titus.

On emergency motion of Senator Titus **SR 1714** was adopted by voice vote.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Announcing passage of **HB 2217**.

Announcing passage of **SB 2, SB 88, SB 175**.

Announcing passage of **SB 82**, as amended; **Sub SB 193**, as amended.

Announcing passage of **SB126**, as amended by **H Sub SB 126**.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 14** and has appointed Representatives Waymaster, Williams, K. and Ballard as conferees on the part of the House.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 105** and has appointed Representatives Proctor, Waggoner and Haskins as conferees on the part of the House.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

HB 2217 was thereupon introduced and read by title.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Blasi, the Senate resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, for consideration of bills on the calendar under the heading of General Orders with Senator Peck in the chair.

On motion of Senator Peck the following summary report was adopted.

SB 213; HB 2106; Sub HB 2145 be passed.

HB 2042, HB 2043, HB 2045 be passed as amended by adoption of the committee reports.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ACTIONS

SB 213 be passed.

HB 2042 be amended by the adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2043 be amended by the adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2045 be amended by the adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2106 be passed. Adoption of the Standing Committee Report was rejected.

Sub HB 2145 be passed.

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO CONCUR AND NONCONCUR

On motion of Senator Erickson the Senate nonconcurrred in the House amendments to **Sub SB 45** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The President appointed Senators Erickson, Thomas and Sykes as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Gossage the Senate nonconcurrred in the House amendments to **SB 82** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The President appointed Senators Gossage, Clifford and Holscher as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Gossage the Senate nonconcurrent in the House amendments to **Sub SB 126** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The President appointed Senators Gossage, Clifford and Holscher as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Gossage the Senate nonconcurrent in the House amendments to **Sub SB 193** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The President appointed Senators Gossage, Clifford and Holscher as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

FINAL ACTION ON CONSENT CALENDAR

HB 2092, AN ACT concerning labor and employment; relating to professional employer organizations; providing that registrations of such organizations with the secretary of state shall expire on October 15 following issuance; providing an exception therefrom for registrations issued on or after January 1, 2025, that shall expire on October 15, 2026; making the time for filing annual audits by such organizations coincide with the time of renewing of registrations; limiting the means of providing surety by a professional employer organization with insufficient working capital to the provision of a bond and eliminating the market value measure of the sufficiency of such bond; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 44-1704 and 44-1706 and repealing the existing sections.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 39; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Ware, Warren.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed.

HB 2117, AN ACT concerning business entities; requiring a business trust to file a certificate of dissolution or withdrawal with the secretary of state and pay associated fees when surrendering authority to transact business in Kansas; requiring a foreign corporation to use a form prescribed by the secretary of state when filing merger or consolidation information or amendments to such corporation's articles of incorporation; authorizing professional corporations or limited liability companies formed or organized to render a professional service to participate in transactions under the business entity transactions act; making certain information provided by registered agents a public record; modifying filing requirements and associated fees for limited partnerships; amending K.S.A. 17-2037, 17-7302, 17-78-110 and 17-7929 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 56-1a151 and 56-1a605 and repealing the existing sections.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 39; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey,

Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Ware, Warren.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed.

HB 2166, AN ACT concerning the open records act; relating to public records; continuing in existence certain exceptions to the disclosure thereof; amending K.S.A. 65-7616 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 45-229 and 48-962 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 45-229d.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 39; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Ware, Warren.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed.

FINAL ACTION ON BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

HB 2027, AN ACT concerning public assistance; reorganizing subsections of the public assistance statute; updating cross references; amending K.S.A. 39-757 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 39-709 and repealing the existing sections, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 31; Nays 8; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Gossage, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Corson, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holscher, Pettey, Sykes, Ware.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed.

HB 2029, AN ACT concerning roads and highways; designating a portion of K-5 highway as the Rep Marvin S Robinson memorial highway; redesignating a current portion of the Harry Darby memorial highway for interstate highway 635; amending K.S.A. 68-1037 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 37; Nays 2; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Ware, Warren.

Nays: Pettey, Sykes.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed, as amended.

HB 2062, AN ACT concerning children and families; relating to orders of child support; providing for child support for unborn children from the date of conception {and including the direct medical and pregnancy-related expenses of the mother}; providing for an income tax exemption for unborn children; amending K.S.A. 20-165, 23-2205 and 23-3001 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 79-32,121 and repealing the existing sections, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 30; Nays 9; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Gossage, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Corson, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holscher, Pettey, Schmidt, Sykes, Ware.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed, as amended.

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

“I vote no on **HB 2062**. While presented as a child support bill, its true intent is far more insidious: establishing fetal personhood in law. This bill grants legal recognition to a fetus as a separate person, even providing a state tax ID number, which could have sweeping consequences beyond financial support. This bill is not about helping women - Instead, it lays the groundwork for future attacks on reproductive rights. Similar laws in other states are used to restrict abortion access, criminalize pregnancy outcomes, and create legal confusion around medical care. Kansans overwhelmingly voted in 2022 to protect abortion rights, yet this bill disregards that mandate by pushing a backdoor strategy to undermine those rights. If a fetus is considered a legal person for financial matters - like taxes - what stops the next step - using that recognition to restrict reproductive healthcare or even prosecute pregnancy losses? This bill opens the door to unintended consequences that could put women at legal risk. Real support for pregnancies doesn’t come from political maneuvers. If we truly cared about supporting families, we would put our money where our mouth is and pass a comprehensive child tax credit for all children birth to age 18.”—DINAH SYKES

Senators Francisco and Pettey request the record to show they concur with the "Explanation of Vote" offered by Senator Sykes on **HB 2062**.

HB 2124, AN ACT concerning roads and highways; designating a portion of United States highway 160 as the CPL Monte Wayne Forrest memorial highway, a portion of United States highway 77 as the POW MIA memorial highway and bridge No. 82-14-6.88 (026) in Clay county as the POW MIA memorial bridge, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 39; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson,

Ware, Warren.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed, as amended.

HB 2155, AN ACT concerning sheriffs; relating to liability; specifying that sheriffs have liability for official acts related to charge and custody of jails; amending K.S.A. 19-811 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 30; Nays 9; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Gossage, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Corson, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holscher, Pettey, Schmidt, Sykes, Ware.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed, as amended.

HB 2347, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to theft; changing the culpability required for certain types of theft; increasing the criminal penalty when the property is a motor vehicle of the value of at least \$500 but less than \$1,500; amending K.S.A. 21-5801 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 39; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 1.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, J.R. Claeys, Joseph Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Tyson, Ware, Warren.

Absent or Not Voting: Thompson.

The bill passed, as amended.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE

The President withdrew **SB 39** from the Committee on **Financial Institutions and Insurance**, and referred the bill to the Committee on **Assessment and Taxation**.

The President withdrew **SB 229** from the Committee on **Ways and Means**, and rereferred the bill to the Committee on **Commerce**.

The President withdrew **HB 2113** from the Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources**, and referred the bill to the Committee on **Ways and Means**.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources** recommends **SB 211** be amended on page 1, in line 13, by striking "at-large"; also in line 13, after "member" by inserting "who represents fish and wildlife administration region one"; in line 14, by striking "appointed by the governor"; in line 15, by striking "one" and inserting "two appointed by the governor"; in line 16, by striking "appointed by the governor"; in line 17, by striking "two" and inserting "three appointed by the governor"; in line 18, by striking "appointed by the governor" in line 19, by striking "five" and inserting "four

appointed by the governor"; in line 20, after "one" by inserting "at-large"; in line 21, by striking all after "representatives"; in line 22, by striking "four"; in line 23, after "one" by inserting "at-large"; also in line 23, by striking "who"; in line 24, by striking all before the semicolon; in line 26, by striking all after "(3)"; by striking all in lines 27 through 29; in line 30, by striking "(4)"; in line 34, after "appoint" by inserting "a person who is or, within five years prior to the appointment, has been"; also in line 34, by striking "or any" and inserting ", an"; in line 35, by striking "any" and inserting "a";

On page 2, in line 1, after the first period by inserting "Not more than two members shall be from the same fish and wildlife administration region.

(4)";

Also on page 2, in line 2, after "commission" by inserting "appointed by the governor"; also in line 2, by striking "and" and inserting "or"; in line 3, after the first period by inserting "Each member of the commission appointed by the attorney general, the speaker of the house of representatives or the president of the senate shall hold office for a term of two years or until a successor is appointed and qualified."; in line 8, after the stricken material by inserting "On July 1, 2026, except for the member appointed to represent fish and wildlife administration region one, each appointing authority may appoint a new member to replace the incumbent member holding such incumbent's seat. Otherwise, such incumbent may serve for the remainder of such incumbent's term."; in line 11, after "(c)" by inserting "(1)"; also in line 11, by striking "Each respective appointing authority" and inserting "Members of the commission appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall serve at the will of the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate, respectively.

(2) The governor and the attorney general";

Also on page 2, in line 18, after "(d)" by inserting "(1)"; in line 20, after the period by inserting:

"(2)";

Also on page 2, in line 21, by striking the comma and inserting ":

(A)";

Also on page 2, in line 22, by striking "or members of the commission"; in line 23, after "regulations" by inserting "; and

(B) members of the commission may submit to the commission any potential rules and regulations.

(3) The commission may, by a majority vote, direct the secretary to make a report on or develop any proposed rule and regulation";

Also on page 2, in line 23, after the period by inserting:

"(4)";

Also on page 2, in line 24, by striking "such proposed"; also in line 24, after "regulations" inserting "proposed pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)"; in line 26, after the period by inserting:

"(5)";

Also on page 2, in line 28, after the period by inserting:

"(6)";

On page 1, in the title, in line 1, by striking all after "to"; in line 2, by striking "requiring" and inserting "the wildlife and parks commission; modifying member appointments and qualifications; authorizing such commission to direct the secretary to

report on or develop rules and regulations; allowing"; also in line 2, by striking "of the wildlife and parks commission"; in line 3, by striking "proposed" and inserting "potential"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Education** recommends **HB 2033**; **Sub HB 2102**; **HB 2185** be passed.

Your Committee on **Federal and State Affairs** begs leave to submit the following report:

The following appointment was referred to and considered by the committee and your committee recommends that the Senate approve and consent to such appointment:

By the Governor:

Brigadier General, Kansas National Guard: K.S.A. 48-208

Michael McCoy, serves at the pleasure of the Governor

The Committee on **Financial Institutions and Insurance** recommends **HB 2050**, As Amended by House Committee, be amended on page 3, in line 38, by striking all after "a"; in line 39, by striking the first "company"; also in line 39, by striking all the after the stricken material; in line 40, by striking all before the period and inserting "one-time fee of \$2 for each newly certified agent. Such fee shall be non-recurrent and constitute the only appointment fee charged for the duration of such newly certified agent's employment with the appointing company"; also in line 40, after the period, by inserting "Such";

On page 6, in line 24, by striking all after "pay"; in line 25, by striking all before the comma and inserting "a one-time fee of \$5 for each newly certified agent. Such fee shall be non-recurrent and constitute the only appointment fee charged for the duration of such newly certified agent's employment with the appointing company";

On page 7, in line 12, by striking all after "pay"; in line 13, by striking all before the stricken material; also in line 13, by striking "and"; also in line 13, before "pay" by inserting "a one-time fee of \$5 for each newly certified agent. Such fee shall be non-recurrent and constitute the only appointment fee charged for the duration of such newly certified agent's employment with the appointing company. Such companies shall"; in line 41, by striking all before "shall" and inserting "one-time fee of \$5 for each newly certified agent. Such fee shall be non-recurrent and constitute the only appointment fee charged for the duration of such newly certified agent's employment with the appointing company. Such companies";

On page 53, in line 17, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Also, HB 2087 be amended on page 5, in line 15, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Judiciary** recommends **HB 2359**, As Amended by House Committee, be passed.

Also, HB 2312 be amended on page 6, in line 21, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

The Committee on **Transportation** recommends **HB 2121**, As Amended by House Committee, be amended on page 2, in line 6, by striking "\$85" and inserting "\$50"; and the bill be passed as amended.

On motion of Senator Blasi, the Senate adjourned until 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 13, 2025.

MARCH 12, 2025

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CHARLENE BAILEY, CINDY SHEPARD, *Journal Clerks.*
COREY CARNAHAN, *Secretary of the Senate.*

