

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR STEVE HALLORAN

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COMMITTEES

Chair - Agriculture
Business and Labor
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

March 26, 2024

Speaker John Arch
Chairman Ray Aguilar

This is my formal objection and protest of the Speaker of the Legislature, Speaker John Arch, "taking up" the Resolution, LR 335, filed by Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, co-sponsored by Senator Julie Slama, to censure me, Senator Steve Halloran, for "words spoken in debate" on March 18, 2024. Additionally, this is a formal protest of the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Chairman Aguilar for scheduling a public hearing on LR 335.

Both of these actions are in violation of the Legislature's process for bringing such allegations and in violation of Rule 2 - Sec. 8 and Sec. 9 of the "Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature". Additionally, these actions are in violation of the Nebraska State Constitution, Article III – 26.

Rule 2, Sec. 8. Transgression of Rules, Call Member to Order. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the Rules of the Legislature, the presiding officer shall, or any member may, call such member to order, in which case he or she shall immediately sit down, unless permitted on motion of another member to explain, and the Legislature shall, if appealed to, decide the case without debate. If the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he or she shall be at liberty to proceed, but not otherwise, and if the case requires it, he or she shall be liable to censure or such punishment as the Legislature may deem proper.

Rule 2, Sec. 9. Words Excepted To. If a member is called to order for words spoken in debate, the member calling him or her to order shall indicate the words excepted to, and they shall be taken down in writing at the Clerk's

desk and read aloud to the Legislature, but he or she shall not be held to answer, nor be subject to the censure of the Legislature therefore, if further debate or other business shall have intervened.

Article III – 26: Privilege of Members – No member of the Legislature shall be liable in any civil or criminal action whatever for words in debate.

Pursuant to the stated Nebraska Legislature’s rules, and to our State Constitution, this hearing should be immediately cancelled, and LR 335 remain not voted on by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Halloran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S".

Senator Steve Halloran
District 33

Under no circumstances should this "internal legislative matter" be live-streamed to the public!