

January 17, 1973

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now Mr. President, the purpose of this bill is to put into motion what the Executive Council thinks this body wants to do and that's to establish in the area of every Senator an office of the state of Nebraska, not that of the Senator. The only way we can do this within the acceptability of the laws and the Constitution is to have the state of Nebraska locate these offices as a further extension of the service of the state to the citizens and if you want this to be done, it's necessary to pass this bill in order to give the Legislative Council the right to proceed in order to make whatever arrangements they can. Now going back and it was originally discussed, it was the desire of almost every member without exception, I am thinking, outside of Lincoln and Omaha, that there be established in their district by the state a branch office of state government which would have a reasonable amount of personnel in order to take care of the business that might be there. It was also believed that in the case of Omaha, the state ought to obtain a central headquarters which would be state headquarters in order to establish for the convenience of the people a location in Omaha and which would be available not only to the 15 members of the Omaha delegation but faced with their purpose and the convenience of there consideration but every other state senator and this is what I presume the Executive Council would like to consider to do. We think it's what you want to do and if you don't want to do it don't pass this bill. If you do want to do it why then give us the authority to proceed and we'll not come back to you on this matter for any further recommendation. So I move that LB 204 be advanced to E & R for Initial.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion? Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Carpenter a question.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter, do you yield?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Yes.

SENATOR STULL: Senator Carpenter, do you think that this is broad enough that I could get a summer's headquarters for state government, and I am thinking of the Executive Branch now, at Fort Robinson?

SENATOR CARPENTER: I think it is.

SENATOR STULL: Thank you.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Let me explain the difference. To be within the limits of the Constitution, we've been advised, off the record and without an official opinion, that the only way we can do it, if we can do it, is to establish for the convenience of the citizen and not the Senators these state offices so he has----in which he lives in order-----got in mind-----enough to take care of that. But if it isn't, then I'd suggest to the Senator that he'd go to other source of information and amend the bill so that it can. I'm sure the Executive Council has no desire not to have as much as authority as this body wants to give us. We can only assure you we will not misuse it intentionally.

SENATOR STULL: Thank you, Senator Carpenter.

SPEAKER: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: I've visited with Governor Exon about this and he's interested in having some buildings in (inaudible).

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SPEAKER:----with the government. Thank you. Senator Dickinson.