

March 13, 1973

and 77. I want to call attention to the article in the World Herald which referred to the federal government's position on drug abuse and their determination to stamp out this traffic in heroin. I want to call your attention to President Nixon's speech Sunday in which he called for all-out effort to stamp out traffic in drugs. I have also in this folder a copy of a telegram to Senator Stull in which is pointed out, there is a flat statement made that reads, "one out of every 40 babies born in New York City is a heroin addict at birth". I hope you will all read the story in which the heroin user from Omaha had to flee the city to protect her life. She points out very vividly the procedure in the traffic in drug abuse in the city of Omaha, and I think that this should if there is any necessity at all to confirm your convictions that we have a problem, that should do it. Last of all, I hope you will read carefully and thoroughly the letter I have from the mother of a seventeen year old son who became addicted to drugs. They don't know where he is at today. All they know is that he is on drugs. He is not at home. This did not, this letter did not come from Lincoln or Omaha. It came from outstate Nebraska. So, anyone who feels that the drug problem is a strictly a metropolitan problem, this should help to convince you that it could happen in any area in the state. I hope that you will bear with me and recognize that if we are going to solve the problem, we have to take the first step. We do not know. No, there is no way of knowing, if it is the correct step or not, but there has to be the first step. This body voted 34 people strong to send this bill to the Governor. I hope that those of you who voted to pass it the first time will stand with me and vote to pass it into law at this time. That's all I have to say. There may be some others who might want to speak on the subject.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Chambers. We are debating on the motion on LB 14, shall the bill be passed notwithstanding the objection of the Governor. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, as Senator Schmit pointed out, I think the vote was 35 in favor of this bill, so it is not a controversial bill, but I think it is greatly needed. It is just one stone in an overall structure which is being erected to fight the drug problem in the state. I don't think enforcing it alone is going to solve the problem, but we have to take the steps that as a Legislature are available for us to take. This is one which can easily be taken. The Legislature accepted this proposal with 35 votes. I don't think the bill is controversial and I shouldn't think it would take too long for us to decide to take a vote on it and give it the 30 votes needed to pass it again. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Whitney, then Senator Nore, then Senator Stahmer. Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, if we fail to accept the Governor's veto, which I hope we do. Not override this over the Governor's veto, then it will put this back in the hands of the Budget Committee, the Appropriations Committee, and if it does so, I would recommend to the Appropriations Committee to do what the Attorney General recommended to the Appropriations Committee when I asked him the question with reference to these legal advisors. These were his words, he said, "I have recommended a legal counselor and I want him to be paid about \$18,000 a year, so that we will have the right kind of a man. Now then, in the fiscal report here, they have asked for three men at \$15,000 a year a piece. There will be none located in Omaha where they have, probably, more need for a man than any place else. There'd be none put there according to the fiscal analyst report, and so I