

April 1, 1974

CLERK: Yes. Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Anderson, amendment number thirteen, it's found on page 1323 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Anderson.

SENATOR ANDERSON: This particular amendment, if you've had a chance to read it, it's in the Journal also. I just distributed a copy of the amendment again. Inserts permissive language into the section of the budget dealing with the Kearney State...or dealing with state colleges and especially the Kearney State College which would permit them to start a degree nursing program, a four year degree nursing program. In drafting this amendment, I've asked staff to tie it down specifically in two ways. One is to tie it down to degree program only. We do have an LPN program that is being run by technical college in that area and I think that is appropriate. To make sure that they don't get into that type of a program and tied down in the second regard, and this is so that it would fit in with the state nursing education plan that is directed to be developed as part of the budget language on page 66 as part of the University of Nebraska budget. So it is designed to be fitted into that plan. The original request which they made was for \$33,000 additional funds in order to hire a director who would then get the program started so that it would be able to be started in the 1975-76 year. In visiting with the people at Kearney State College who were attempting to get this thing started, they indicated that in their mind, the need was so great that they would be willing to start this program even without additional money by reallocating the funds that are part of their continuation budget. And this is a third feature that is in this particular amendment...that is, it asks them to reallocate funds that are in their budget right now as opposed to asking for additional money. So this would not involve an additional expenditure of money for 1974-75 fiscal year. The need for a degree nursing program in the central Nebraska area, I think has been very well documented. The 1972-73 appropriation by this Legislature made an appropriation of \$13,235 for a feasibility study. That study has been completed. The study has, I think, documented need for this program and these people are now willing to go ahead with this thing and willing to fit it in with the development of a state nursing education program. The conclusion that this is a needed thing does fit in with the recommendation of the public post-secondary coordinating council which recommended the degree nursing program in both the University and at Kearney State College. And I think that pretty well covers what we're talking about right now. If there are questions, I would be glad to answer them. Otherwise, I move the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson and then Senator Marsh.

SENATOR DICKINSON: I have a question, Mr. Speaker, probably of Senator Anderson and then perhaps the Budget Committee. We went around this route last week but Senator Anderson, was this request made and a budget request by the college to our Appropriations Committee? And, if so, what was the reason for turning it down?

SENATOR ANDERSON: The budget request was made, it was, it was dropped both by the Governor and the Appropriations Committee to my understanding. And I think their reasoning, Senator Marvel or someone may have further comment on this, their reasoning was that they wanted to wait another year for the development of this plan that was spoken about in