

May 22, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body. I rise to support Senator Goodrich. I think it was a mistake when he used the word "private". What he meant was proprietary schools. That's the proper term. Proprietary schools are approved by the State Department of Education, as the President well knows having been a member of that board. I think too often we approve proprietary schools and then we seldom check back to see whether or not they are really giving to the people what they maintain they are providing these people, who are paying many times high rates of tuition with very little return. I have been collecting evidence in the State of Nebraska because I too was going to introduce a motion to this effect. I think it's high time we looked at the proprietary schools, whether or not they are really providing for people the services and the skills that they say they are. I think this is germane to our obligations to the State of Nebraska. It is higher education. It is under private enterprise, the purpose of making money. As long as we accredit and approve them, under the State Department of Education, ... I think rightfully Senator Goodrich has brought something to this body which is imperative in purposes. I hope we would change the word "private" to "proprietary" and then proceed to adopt it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I second with what Senator Lewis & Senator Koch has said. I believe, under those conditions, I would support the resolution.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. It would seem to me that this would be just a little premature to get into this. If they're going to audit these schools I think at least a study should be after the audit is completed. I think that if a committee undertook it at this time I just don't think it would be the proper thing. I think some people would think it was a witch hunt. I don't think that we want to get involved in anything like that. I think the Exec. Board should be upheld in their decision.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. President, I think that Senator Stull has made a very valid point that Senator Goodrich should reconsider in terms of rewriting it. If we're going to do a complete investigation of Creighton University or any of the others, I don't have the desire, interest, nor the inclination to do so. If the other motivation is there, he can amend that. I would recommend to Senator Goodrich that he become a little more specific so that the intent of the Legislature is very clear as to the direction. I would say what Senator Barnett and my uncle Dick back there said that we get it very specific and we can support it.