

January 20, 1976

year of 1976, this is a real necessity if Omaha shall allow the citizens to have this service. So to the Senators who are here today, do not be scared off. You are going to sit here and make the final decision. You are going to be the decider in a year from now or two years from now if this bill shall ever come to your community. It can't do so unless you push the certain button that is on your table. This is no different than allowing the city of Omaha to have certain legislation that it asks for. This bill is amended to where it is livable. It is palatable. It is a bill that I think if you will be fair to yourself and fair to the city of Omaha, you will allow branch banking. Do not kill this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Skarda.

SENATOR SKARDA: Mr. President, I move the previous question.

PRESIDENT: Are there five seconds? I see five seconds. The question is, shall debate cease? Record your vote. Have you all voted? Have all of you voted? The question is, shall debate cease on this issue? Record.

CLERK: 23 ayes, 20 nays.

PRESIDENT: The issue fails. Senator Koch. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. President. To answer a question that Senator Clark alluded to a moment ago about Omaha. I also live close to Omaha, not necessarily in the geographical confines. We talk about the people of Omaha and what they want. Last night I was before a group of about 40 citizens who I think represent some of the more knowledgeable aspects of the city and its needs and I brought up the question of branch banking and there was only one person there who seemed to have a strong feeling for it. Most of the other people seemed to indicate a lack of interest. Not only that, but I also represent the 12th District and a number of banks that I think are competitive, reliable and who perform good services to those people who live there. They are Southwest, the Ralston Bank, the Millard Bank and besides that I have also had personal visits from the Packers Bank of South Omaha. So when you talk about the banks, those that are viable, those that are competitive, those who are seeking to serve their customers, but I think you have to take into consideration the position of these people as well because when you look at the service they perform and I think what they feel they are being jeopardized, then we should consider those people as well.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to speak briefly once more. I think the issue has been addressed properly. I think the minds of many people have been improved by the discussion, both pro and con, and I want to say that I hope the young people in the South balcony have learned that the legis-