

January 21, 1976

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body. We're still on this discussion of how we're going to use our days, aren't we, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: This is on Senator Marsh's motion for the 12th.

SENATOR KOCH: I just have to make a few remarks on the whole issue of how we use time. Those of you in this body who feel that you do not need to carry legislation, it's rather easy. However, those of us who have legislation that we feel is important and has impact upon the state get sometimes very deeply involved in the business of trying to guide the destiny of this legislation. I think that everyone of you know you've been in this position longer than I have. There's nothing wrong with a few days which gives you time to make up your mind and make decisions. I'm not here to criticize the Speaker. I was one of the first ones that went to him and said "Let's have a calendar and how we're going to use these 60 days". The calendar is here. I've been waiting for this discussion. The only point is that we're trying to resolve this issue in a few minutes. None of us will give it ample thought. I cannot believe that the committee who is properly notified now, cannot re-establish hearing dates. I just think that we are carrying out a responsibility to the State of Nebraska, not in terms of just the business of the Legislature, but also for our own health, our own physical being and our own mental being.

The Congress of this nation takes off a lot of days. They do it because of the pressures. I think this body would have to admit that there are pressures that you need some-time away, and I'm one of them. That's the reason that I changed my vote from aye to nay because I'm going to ask for a reconsideration of this action tomorrow or the next day. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I like the way you say Senator Keyes because I think I have something to add to this. My grandfather came down here. He was here about 20 days and that's all during the year. He never came to Lincoln anyother time because they decided how many counties we were going to have, how many Indian uprisings they were going to take care of, how many railroad lines they were going to let go and that was about the state business.

Today when we run for this office.... I'm thinking now of a letter that appeared in the paper out of Norfolk that said "These men and women who come to Lincoln for 60 days one year, and 90 days the next, and go home and collect \$4800 ... or \$9600 are well overpaid for the time that they spend down at Lincoln". I wish that gentleman would come with me and find out how many days. I realize that I'm slower on my thoughts than most of you.

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