

March 17, 1976

accurate and saying "stopping the decline of quality in undergraduate education". I'm absolutely convinced that there is a decline in quality of undergraduate education at UNL. It has to do with the size of the population, it has to do with the size of classes, it has to do with the emphasis being placed elsewhere in expenditure of money. I cannot give you hard data and neither can anyone else when it comes to measuring the quality of undergraduate education. We can very clearly point to those large class sizes, to the 14 percent of those classes at the 100 level that exceed 150 students and some of them exceed that amount by a great number. We can accept the fact that in some situations that's a tolerable number. But the real crime takes place in those classrooms where you're supposed to have discussions, where there are no lecture assistants or lab assistants, but where the student body, it's class number ... numbers between 45 and 65. That is a situation that does exist frequently on the freshman, sophomore and junior level. I think that this is a program that would be supported by a number of citizens in the state because it ties down, very specifically, a solution to some of the things that have been bothering our citizens around the state who have any contact with the educational programs at the University. They are not willing to give \$8 million or some other figure without strings attached. They want to make sure they get some results from it. I've tried to narrow it down and to tie it down as carefully as I can. I've tried to make it clear by putting it out there all by itself. Whether or not this body is willing to accept it, whether the Governor is willing to accept it and then we're going to see if the Board of Regents implements it as the law directs them to do so. I move for the adoption of this divided part of the amendment to the Committee amendments, Program 712.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Program 2 in Section 8 of LB 690. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, Mr. President, 11 nays.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a motion on the desk.

PRESIDENT: Before you read the communication, I've had further request since we only have four programs in Section 8 that they be divided after lunch. So we will take ... this was two, Program 2. After lunch we'll take up 1, 3 and 4 of Section 8. I have had a request to further divide that. Read what you have Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: A letter, Mr. President, from the Executive Office under date of March 17, 1976. (Read letter from Governor concerning LR 115 found on pages 1178 and 1179 of the Journal).

Mr. President, I move we recess till 1:30.

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion. All in favor say aye, contrary say nay. We are in recess until 1:30.

RECESS