

April 20, 1977

PRESIDENT: Mr. Speaker, do you rise as Speaker?

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Yes. This is way beyond where we were supposed to be on time so I am going to...Senator Chambers will say I am terribly frustrated...but I promised we would get on the appropriations bills and we will so we will just cut it off here and go on to the appropriation bills and leave this hanging right where it is.

PRESIDENT: The Speaker...Senator Duis, do you ask recognition, and for what purpose?

SENATOR DUIS: I would like to ask the Speaker if he would reconsider himself here so that we might have some action on this particular piece of legislation.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: There won't be any because people won't stop talking. We don't have the cutoff rule that we tried to get and we don't have any power over it. They can talk forever on anything and they are going to do it. So we will just do it this way unless you want to overrule me.

SENATOR DUIS: Isn't it one of the privileges to speak?

PRESIDENT: Only to an issue before us. Now the Chair would entertain a motion to overrule the Speaker. I am answering Senator Duis, that is the purpose.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Can I ask a question? Was that vote that we took, what was that for?

PRESIDENT: To cease debate, and then the Speaker ruled that we shall cease consideration of this bill at this point. Senator Duis asked some questions but there is nothing before us now unless he wants to appeal the Speaker's order but apparently that is no one's wish. So the Speaker's order is that we leave LB 30 right here.

CLERK: Motion on the desk, Mr. President. I move the introduction of Request #812. Signed by the members of the Appropriations Committee. Read title. Signed Senator Warner.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, this is an attempt to introduce a bill which we discussed before, one other day, and it will correct a problem that has come about because of an Attorney General's opinion indicating that counties who have patients at the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute cannot be billed because the statutes do not permit it. Like an indication to the members the significance of this is this, in the Medical Center's budget is a request to replace general fund money with this money that previously would have been collected and it could mean, if the general fund is used, an increase of at least one hundred and forty thousand in general fund. It could be as much as two hundred and seventeen thousand, if you replaced all that they would request. All that the bill does is authorizes the NPI, the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute to make the same charges that the Regional Centers do and this applies to a variety of counties. Last year and the first quarter of this year, there was at