

toward the Institute of Agriculture again indicating the intent of the Legislature to insure that the total full time equivalent teaching assistants where they are primarily instructional does not increase as retain a favorable student faculty relationship for the use of these improvement programs and at least a minimum of 75% of the funds work load increase approved for them will be directly related to class room instructions at the undergraduate level. The Section 7, is a repeat of the salary policy that is also contained in the appropriation bill that I have already previously discussed during the appropriation bill Section 8, is the repeal of this act July 1, 1978, and the Emergency Clause. I would be glad to answer any question Mr. President as to the specifics. The committee has no amendments to the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I am speaking to my amendment now that I placed on LB 543. Because of the considerable time that was used on the abortion issue during the criminal code discussion, I was very reluctant to bring this matter back for further debate. But, what is happening to the University Medical Center has far out weighed my reluctance. I urge this body to consider the amendment that I had placed on your desk this morning. The Nebraska 1976 statistical report of abortions prepared by the Department of Health shows that 512 abortions were performed during 1976 at the University Hospital. That is about a 49% increase over the previous year. To the many Nebraskans who oppose abortions the statistics are very disturbing. There are serious implications that more abortions than necessary are being performed in an educational setting. In 1974, and this is most important, a federal district court in Nebraska ruled that abortions at Nebraska University Medical Center could be limited to the extent necessary to preserve a balanced medical curriculum. A 49% jump in one year is an alarming signal that dictates of a balanced curriculum are likely being violated when it comes to abortion. It is also extremely interesting to note that in a one year period running July 1975 through June 1976 there were 65 tonsillectomies at the University Hospital. There were 53 appendectomies, 53 hysterectomies, and 66 operations for removal of knee cartilage. We have to remember that there were 512 abortions. In view of the available guideline from the court decision and also in view of the serious moral implications of abortion there is no good reason why the number of abortions should be far out of line with other operative procedures. Yet there is a strong evidence that this is actually the situation. Legislators can secure some accountability and it should be part of the appropriation process that this amendment will help protect educational goals while hopefully at the same time limiting the number of abortions. It will also help determine if the guidelines set for the University Medical Center are being surpassed and will help control what is developing as a very serious problem. I urge the members of this body to seriously look over the amendment that I place before you this morning and accept the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, and members of the Legislative body. It is with reluctance that I stand to oppose this proposed amendment by Senator Bernice Labeledz. The Supreme Court has said