

April 7, 1978

LB 595

SENATOR MILLS: Do they take shots?

SENATOR CLARK: No.

SENATOR MILLS: What do they take?

SENATOR CLARK: All they do if they have glaucoma that's that bad is self-evident in the first place. They just send them to an ophthalmologist. However, if they can see glaucoma starting in the eye after they have dilated the eye and can look in and see it they automatically go to an ophthalmologist. They cannot treat anything. It's strictly for diagnostic purposes and only in half to 2½ solutions, not in 10% the way Senator Kelly said.

SENATOR MILLS: Okay, Senator Clark, another question, after applying these topical drugs if the bill passes, will they be able to or can they now measure pressure in the eye?

SENATOR CLARK: No.

SENATOR MILLS: Is that diagnostic purposes?

SENATOR CLARK: You've been to an optometrist I'm sure, Senator Mills, haven't you?

SENATOR MILLS: Yes.

SENATOR CLARK: He looks into your eye and you have a normal eye, I'm sure and they can see into the eye. Many people have a real real small pupil and they cannot see into that eye. That's what this is for, to enlarge the pupil. Then he contracts the pupil back down.

SENATOR MILLS: They cannot treat nor detect?

SENATOR CLARK: They can detect.

SENATOR MILLS: Will they use these drugs to detect glaucoma?

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills, under our rules, the introducer gets five minutes to close and we're at that time.

SENATOR MILLS: Thank you, I won't take his time.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis, we go now to your close. Our allotted time is up except for your five minutes.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, I certainly don't plan to take five minutes to close because I think we have explained. Perhaps it wasn't clear in Senator Kelly's report of his letter from the physician that he mentions a concentration of 10%. I think perhaps it wasn't clear to most of you that actually that what the optometrist will use is a concentration of 2½% so it is in our belief and I would be the very first to vote against anything that I thought would be dangerous to the people in Nebraska, those patients who go to these optometrists, but I think that this is a safe, an absolutely safe procedure that will enhance and better the care of the eyes of the citizens of Nebraska. I would urge you to support this bill and move it on to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion. The question is shall the bill be advanced. Record your vote. Have you voted? Have you all voted? Record.

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