

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President, I would call the question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. The question is, shall debate cease? Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 6 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Johnson, may I introduce some guests before you close? Senator Wehrbein has guests in the south balcony. We have 35 Cass County Republican Women and about six spouses. Mrs. Wehrbein is their leader. Would you please welcome them to the Legislature this morning. Senator Vard Johnson to close on the amendment.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I voted to cease debate because I know that those who hadn't spoken would have opportunities to speak on the amendment on the provision itself in the event that my amendment failed. And in all probability my amendment will fail. I listened to the debate and, frankly, there wasn't much of a debate. It was pretty lopsided. Even Scotty Moore who took my point of view, ended up saying I still am compelled to vote for this resolution because I think that an underfunded, inadequate, insufficient university with a good rec center is better than an underfunded, inadequate, inefficient university with a bad rec center. Now I find it almost scandalous that we can even think like that in this Legislature because it is us who have brought this condition to pass and the Board of Regents who have brought this condition to pass and the administration who have brought this condition to pass. Ever since I said publicly that I intended to oppose the new recreational center indoor football practice field, my office has been flooded with mail and the mail runs about 75 percent for my side and about 25 percent against. But that is only natural because those people who are sympathetic to a person's point of view on an emotional issue like this one tend to write them. But the mail that I have received is pathetic in the stories that it tells. I have letters from University of Nebraska at Lincoln professors who tell me that they would not send their children to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln because the quality of education has declined so dramatically there, they would not send their children to that institution. That is an indictment. That is an indictment out of the Emile Zola mold of indictments. For people to say, I