

January 28, 1988

LB 466

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Shall we move on to number 8, please, LB 466.

CLERK: Mr. President, 466 was a bill introduced by Senator Vard Johnson. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 21 of last year, at that time it was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I do have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, did you wish to talk about the committee amendments first?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, I think we do need to deal with the committee amendments. I don't know if Senator Johnson wants to go to the bill or not. But the committee amendment deals with one of the provisions of the bill. Just for your information, the bill deals with the important subject of indigent care and provision of indigent care in the State of Nebraska. Senator Johnson's bill focuses in on the counties in trying to meet the responsibility they now have in statute and further strengthens that responsibility. But part of the provisions of Senator Johnson's bill did provide for the state to pick up part of the costs of indigent care for counties that approach their mill levy limit. You know there is a 50 mill limit in the Constitution for counties, and there are a handful of counties that are approaching that mill limit. Senator Johnson would have the state provide for meeting, I think, over 48 mills, half the cost of the indigent care for those counties to try to, in a match formula, to try to deal with the problem of counties up at their mill levy. The committee did vote to strike that provision from the bill. That would be the committee amendment which I would offer for consideration.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on the committee amendments? If not, the question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. I need a little help. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Anything further on it, Mr. Clerk?