

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 3, 2002 LB 721, 1021

could you kind of indicate their opposition to me and...or to us and why those individuals were opposed to changing the registry in the way you're setting forth in LB 721?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, the main reason is that they were afraid that their research would be handicapped, that they wouldn't be able to have the access to the patients that they wanted. That was with the original bill. But as I mentioned when I introduced the amendment, this is not the original bill. It is the language worked out between all those groups.

SENATOR BOURNE: So everybody that is an opponent to this bill, at least at the testifying stage, now is a supporter of the bill?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, I believe so. Let me tell you who came together on this. It was the Nebraska Medical Association; the Nebraska Cancer Registry; Methodist Hospital, which manages the cancer registry; the University of Nebraska Med Center; Creighton University; and the Department of Health and Human Services.

SENATOR BOURNE: The one thing I will tell you that when this registry was impacted a year or two ago, some of these same individuals testified, and I think that they weren't all aware of the impact that this change in the registry might have. At least that was, a year ago. And I guess I'm wondering now, is this a begrudging support that these individuals or is this a wholehearted support or endorsement of your concept?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, I...I can't...I can't testify to that, Senator.

SENATOR BOURNE: Well, I appreciate it. I don't...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Because they are the ones who worked out the language.

SENATOR BOURNE: Right. And I don't mean to put you in the spot but I feel that one of the most important things we can do, as do you, I'm sure, is research cancer and some of these other