

February 15, 1979

LB 108

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Landis moves to indefinitely postpone LB 108.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I rise today to oppose LB 108. I know that most of you probably think I have said everything I intend to say on the bill. Not so, I have some more points to make with respect to LB 108, why I think it is a bad bill. I was on the Business and Labor Committee that heard this bill. We spent approximately an hour and ten minutes on this bill. This is, as you will note, a committee bill. This is not introduced by any single member of the Legislature who wishes to take responsibility for this bill. This is simply the product of lobbyists who brought us a bill, and you know how the committee procedure works. The bill was passed around. Names were placed on it and I have to confess I think my name is on that bill, too. Now the bill arrives at public hearing. Is there a state senator that supports it at the hearing? No. Is Frank Lewis there or Jerry Koch there? No. The lobbyists for the interests come forth. The state colleges, the tech colleges, NSEA, who wants to bargain on behalf of these people and who wants to force the Chadron unit under their aegis and these groups of people come and speak to us as to why it is an important bill. They represent two interests, number one, management, and number two, a labor organization that wants to swallow up a campus who simply doesn't want to work with them. Those are the people that are in favor of the bill. The people who spoke against that bill were the representatives on the campuses, the ones who are being affected and whose bargaining units are being determined. They were the faculty members of UNO and UNL and there was written testimony in the record from faculty members of other state colleges and the like and they said, essentially, allow us to determine what we think is our most appropriate bargaining unit subject to the findings of the Court of Industrial Relations and, of course, subject to the appeal to the Supreme Court. I want to remind this body, and perhaps you are not aware of some of the existing legal structure by which these kinds of cases are decided. The fear was expressed in the hearing that if we allowed bargaining to run rampant there would be a fragmentation in the bargaining process. The Supreme Court of the State of Nebraska says that one of the determinants of what an appropriate bargaining unit is is whether or not undue fragmentation will be brought about. If undue fragmentation is a very real possibility, that means that it is not an appropriate bargaining unit. Let us review the