

February 21, 1979

LB 141

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. Alright the motion is to advance LB 141 as amended to E & R for Review. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no.

SENATOR CULLAN: Excuse me...

SPEAKER MARVEL: I'm sorry, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, I do want to debate the bill and ask some questions of Senator Koch. I didn't know that we were at the stage yet, and so I apologize for failing to respond. But I do have some very serious concerns about this bill, and I do think it should be discussed before it's advanced, and I withheld discussion on the Committee amendment...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Alright, I will recognize you, but then in turn will recognize Senator Koch if he so desires to close. So, Senator Cullan, you have the floor.

SENATOR CULLAN: Okay, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am concerned about this bill because it does significantly expand the authority of the Nebraska Coordinating Council, and I wonder exactly why the bill is justified. Now, as I understand this bill, Senator Koch, I would ask you to correct me if I'm in error, but this bill authorizes that body to review any institution of higher learning public or private that is outside of the state of Nebraska, and that they have to be registered with the Commission, and receive the approval of the Commission before they do business in the State of Nebraska. Now is that correct, Senator Koch?

SENATOR KOCH: That's correct, Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Senator Koch, could you tell me why?

SENATOR KOCH: Alright, first of all, you have a considerable number of not only bona fide colleges who are attempting to set up programs in this state, but you also have proprietary and other kinds, even cults, different kinds of religious groups, who are attempting to bring into this state certain kinds of programs. What we are attempting to do here is to make certain that these are bona fide institutions, that there is indeed credit being granted and that credit is capable of transferring to other institutions, so that once you pay your tuition you can be assured that the Commission has investigated this institution, and they have been approved and authorized to proceed with the programs. So what we're doing here is we're really providing a check to the consumers of the