

April 2, 1979

LB 116

Senator Murphy's amendment, because if you put that piece of amending process in here then you have virtually made the Commission inoperative, because there's no doubt that they're going to need possibly some money from the state upon occasion to carry out the total intent of this piece of legislation. Not everything is always going to be donated, nor will the private sector contribute funds at all times to carry on the intent of the bill. If we indeed want 116, then I believe we should deny Senator Murphy this innocuous amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Murphy.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes, sir.

SENATOR COPE: Senator Murphy, what about the Nebraska Arts Council? There is a good deal of federal funds there, state funds, comingled as far as I am sure...what about funds that would be used, possibly could be used through that agency?

SENATOR MURPHY: The provisions of the bill, I believe, Senator, are that federal funds may be used, that private funds may be used, that grants may be used, and such other funds. Two years ago, I believe it was, possibly three, this Legislature said that as much as one percent of the total construction cost of any buildings might be used for purposes of art. Now I think we've proceeded far enough in that category of displaying art in public buildings in that we are funding up to one percent of the total construction cost. Now we are going to start hanging miscellaneous and other artifacts, and this is fine, if people wish to participate in that council and have their work displayed in public buildings, I certainly have no objection to it, but I do not wish to put the state in the position of having to purchase with state funds a rather broad expanse of art of sorted types to be displayed in a building. I think we have...the concept of art within a building through our previous funding, and I just don't wish to have the state get into funding in an entirely different category now...odd pieces of art that I think are rather loosely defined. I think art for the sake of art is wonderful.

SENATOR COPE: I think you misunderstood my question. The