

April 25, 1979

LB 285

I pushed my button in order to support Senator Koch's amendment to LB 285. We all know that there is continually consistently a shift in the population of the state of Nebraska. People move from one place to the other for various reasons. It could be the building of a factory in a certain town, or whatnot. I think we need to provide as Senator Koch has proposed in this amendment. By having said that I am supporting it. I'd like to ask Senator Koch a question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch, Senator Kremer wants to ask you a question.

SENATOR KOCH: I'm sorry.

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Koch, I just now stated that I'm supporting your amendment because of the shift of population, because of growth, and so on. Now after I pushed my button, Senator Carsten said that he believes the bill as it is presently written does take care of your problem. Do you agree with that?

SENATOR KOCH: No, it doesn't, and I'll explain if you'll give me the opportunity, to that question.

SENATOR KREMER: I will, I'll give you the rest of my time to explain it, because I am supporting your amendment, unless the bill already does take care of it, then I see no need of it.

SENATOR KOCH: Alright, let me...let me tell you exactly how they're affected, because they're working on this year's budget. They're going to get a 7 percent increase in their budget. Correct? That's what this law will allow. So, then, they're going to also get a 9 point, almost 10 percent growth in population. Right? That's what they're new enrollment will be...a thousand more students. So if you take the one percent factor off, which we adopted here, they now get 9 plus, or they get less than that, they'll get about 14.57 percentage increase. That's what they'll be able to grow. Yet their budget increases over the past 6 years have been at the area of 17, 18 and 19 percent, and they had a per pupil cost, one of the lowest in the state, and now I want you people to listen to this, \$1396. There are few schools of that size who have that low of PPC. So all we're saying here is that there would be a few exceptions. It's based upon when you're over 5 percent growth, and they can demonstrate this by computer and they can tell you it's real. Then they would be allowed to use their last three