

January 16, 1980

LB 184

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Yes.

SENATOR POWERS: Senator Fitzgerald, your amendment specifically mentions a site in Omaha known as Clearview Home. Clearview Home is now annexed to Douglas County Hospital and now has a number of employees there and over a hundred patients. May I ask you what provision is going to be made for the employees in Douglas County that are now working in Clearview Home. What will happen to them if the state takes over that building?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: We have another annex at 42nd and Woolworth and Mr. Shelton which is the administrator of the Annex there says he has room to take these patients over there because they are about 60% occupied over there.

SENATOR POWERS: I am more concerned about the employees out there.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: The employees will transfer over there and if they do not transfer, we are trying to talk to the personnel and everybody and we are going to absorb them in the state and I have talked to Mr. McDonald from, President of the AFL-CIO and he has been working with us and he is agreeable with what we are trying to do with the employees.

SENATOR POWERS: There are many dedicated people who spend a lot of time there and I wouldn't want to see a mass loss of jobs.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: They will be given jobs. They will all be taken care of. Nobody will lose a job over this the way we have it wrote up now.

SENATOR POWERS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support the Fitzgerald amendment. I think it is very important that we try and resolve some of the problems that we are having in these veterans homes. We certainly do not have enough space at the present time. I am very well acquainted with the Veterans Home that we have in Norfolk and the care is real good and of course the only problem is that we do not have enough beds for all of the veterans that we have in Nebraska. I think by the addition that the Fitzgerald amendment proposes would add greatly to the number of beds that we will have in our veterans homes system and so at this time I would