

March 26, 1980

LB 1002

school education and a diploma. Immediately those who don't have this are barred from that program and a diploma oftentimes, I know we have discussed the value of a diploma, but the fact is it is like a good card of recommendation, the fact that you have demonstrated certain kinds of qualities or competencies, therefore I am not asking for a huge sum of money. I am asking for an additional \$60,000 out of the state general fund to be placed in this particular division to carry out a program which I think is imperative to adults and not to any other kind of person. It is adult and we know what an adult is. We define it by law and there is no problem with that. So this was not brought before the Appropriations Committee, the request was not there and it was just made known to me several weeks ago. I ask for its adoption and, Senator Murphy, the feds did not drop the dollars. They are still keeping their dollars in here. It is just a matter of how they have stated to the State of Nebraska, you will use 80% of these monies for adults with less than a ninth grade education and this then places the squeeze upon the public schools, particularly them when they live under a severe limitation and I passed around to you a letter from the president of Elwood Schools yesterday and in it I think he put the message pretty clear to us. "You are elected to have some intestinal fortitude and when you see the need you ought to make it." You know what? I'm sorry there aren't more school board presidents writing that kind of a letter to all of us. I ask for the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is the adoption of the Koch amendment on LB 1002. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Koch, what do you want to do?

SENATOR KOCH: Well, Mr. President, I know this is a paranormal situation but I notice my good friend cast a vote for me down here and I appreciate that. I beat Kahle anyway, 15 to 11. How many are excused?

CLERK: There are eight right now, Senator.

SENATOR KOCH: Eight officially excused?

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SENATOR KOCH: Here comes one. Push green, Mr. Johnson.

CLERK: There are seven excused.