

April 18, 1980

LB 627

To me, we have caused utter chaos in our schools and if anybody ever took time to go through Omaha schools, go through Nebraska City schools, go to Falls City, and see the chaos and the uproar of our teachers...I have had hired help all my life but you don't handle them the way we handle this situation. We have put handcuffs on these people. We have caused a problem here that our children are going to suffer for some time. You ask some children coming home from school and they say, all we can hear down there is the lid. It's caused chaos. We have got to do something different than we have and I think there is a much simpler way to solve this problem. I think the school boards and the superintendents are aware of our problem, or anybody that talks to them...they said we have cut everything out we can and I think they are ready to live with what we have got and realize that the economy isn't up to snuff. But please think of these children. They are sitting there in school wondering what is going to happen next. They are watching us like you wouldn't believe. I'll bet you half of the schools in our area are sitting there with a radio, or someplace, listening to what is going on here. So, I think it is time we think of our children. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I have got a comment or two to make and then I would like to ask Senator Koch some questions, or one question, at least. I, too, agree with Senator Haberman about the slap in the face to the people that voted. This bothers me. As this bill came across I voted several ways I guess, but I did vote for the two year limit. I know this creates a problem for Omaha. I think the solution is what Senator George said. If we put some money into the pot somewhere else along the line in this process today, that we would eliminate the problem of the zero lid, especially if we put 40 million in. And I want to ask Senator Koch...I don't believe that Senator George was quite correct. I think if enough money is put into the school aid fund that the taxes could be reduced in Omaha. Is this not correct, Senator Koch?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Kahle, if enough money is placed in there, certainly that would be beneficial. But you are looking at 20 million dollars, that's all we have any assurance of and I want to tell you that is just the least to be as a hold harmless with the new bill.

10355