

March 17, 1981

LB 245

significantly in the foreseeable future. This limitation would allow a fifty percent increase. Let me talk one minute now about something that I haven't talked about before. Operational costs at the Regional School. The reason that we want to be sure that we have some students from outstate is to pick up a portion of the construction costs and to pick up a portion of the operation costs. Right now, this year in the contracts that we are making with out of state schools, we are paying about 1.1 million dollars, 1.1 million dollars. If the Regional School goes into operation and assuming that only a third of the students are ours, the annual cost, the annual operational cost as best I can figure it deducting out the revenues would be somewhere in the neighborhood of 1.8 million. So our costs, our annual costs are going to increase from 1.1 to 1.8. Now that is assuming that one-third of the students are Nebraskans. What if all of the students are Nebraskans? What if there are no participating states? Under the bill we can proceed to have the Regional School and proceed to fill it with a hundred percent Nebraskan students, then the operational costs annually go up to about 5.5 million dollars. So if you do not change this law, this bill the way it is, you are giving an agency of our government the authority, the University the authority if things don't work out exactly as we planned, and there are big questions about that, to fill the school with Nebraska students at an operational cost about five times higher than what we are paying right now starting in about 1985-86, and those are all in terms of today's dollars, not taking into account inflation. So please, I ask you to adopt the amendment and protect us from the possibility of outrageous operational costs of that kind. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: The question is the adoption of the Beutler amendment to LB 245. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler requested a record vote. (Record vote read. See page 964, Legislative Journal.) 14 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Amendment failed. Is there another amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler moves to amend the committee amendments. Add a new section which would read