

March 17, 1981

LB 245

as follows: (Read Beutler amendment as found on pages 964 and 965, Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, again this amendment is designed to tie down the project fiscally so we all know exactly where the funds are coming from and that they will, in fact, be there. The amendment, basically, says that we do not obligate, that doesn't mean appropriate, but we do not obligate any state funds or issue any bonds until the private donations in the amount of two million dollars have been received by the University of Nebraska Foundation and made available to the University of Nebraska for the Regional College. The entire financial set up on the Regional College has been premised on private donations in the amount of two million dollars. It used to be a lot higher than that but now it is two million dollars and all this amendment does is to ensure that that money is, in fact, available before we commit ourselves to the state funding. As you know, these private donations were to be in the form of pledges to the University of Nebraska Foundation which would be, in turn, turned over to the University of Nebraska for the specific purpose of the Regional Vet School. Well, it doesn't always happen that pledges are followed through with, that actual donations precede from the pledges, although I think that most of the time they do. In addition to that, the time period between the pledge and the actual donation of the money can be considerable and often is a considerable period of time. So this amendment would seek to ensure that the money, that the private donation money is in fact there prior to proceeding. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle and then Senator Koch.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, this is one I am really going to enjoy speaking to. I happen to be one of those that have pledged money for the vet school and so have other members of my family. I think this is the first, and I really get sick and tired of people talking about the vet school that have no real interest in it, it doesn't affect their lives in any way, they don't contribute anything to it, and yet they want to tell us how to do it. The industry is in the process and has had good success in raising money. It would be a lot easier if we knew this thing was a sure thing is what we are trying to do with the legislation that is before us, much easier. It is pretty hard to put money out, cash money, when you don't know whether the thing is going