

March 27, 1961

LB 58

Lincoln Airport Authority into selling the virgin prairie but allows the Lincoln Airport Authority in the event they wish to, to sell the land at fair market value but in such a way as to put it within the range that the people who want to keep that as virgin prairie can buy the land. The net effect of selling a piece of property with a covenant running with the land would be to reduce its fair market value considerably and that is the purposes of the amendment. Apparently Senator Vickers wants to bring to the attention of this body his concern with the first section, the policy section of the bill and I believe will attempt to offer an amendment yet further defining virgin prairie. Of course there are large sections of Nebraska that are virgin prairie. It is not our intention to mess with any of the lands that are now under the control of the Board of Lands and Funds. We actually had this one specific instance and we can solve that problem by adding a quick amendment which we found in subsection 4 of the committee amendments but that will have to take place after we adopt the committee amendments. I urge this body's approval of the committee amendments to LB 58.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Vickers, do you have an amendment to the committee amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vickers moves to amend the committee amendments. (Read Vickers amendment found on page 1167 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Speaker and members, the intent language in section 1 of the committee amendments to LB 58 bothered me just a little bit since I come from a part of the state that has a considerable amount of what I would term as virgin prairie in it and probably will always be virgin prairie. I am very jealous of that virgin prairie or those pastures as we call them out in our part of the state but if it is the intention of LB 58 to preserve lands of this nature that have been used for educational purposes for study of the unique circumstances that these virgin prairies have within them, then I think the intent language that we are putting in the statutes should reflect that and that is what this amendment would do and I offer it to this body in good faith that it would indicate because it does bother me when we put intent language in that seems to me to be rather broad and if you would read subsection 4 of section 1 of the committee amendments to LB 58 it says that, "It is in the public interest that such virgin prairie in suitable quantities be preserved and protected." Now if