

April 15, 1981

LB 318

add to state aid to schools so that nobody loses and some people gain. So under the present bill as it is now written, without the Remmers amendment this money would come from the basic programs and be channeled into the vocational programs. Now I am not opposing vocational programs. I think they are very important, but I see no point in robbing Peter to pay Paul when in all probability Peter needs the money worse than Paul, and it is a more worthy...in my estimation it is a more worthy purpose to put this money into the basic programs rather than the vocational programs. And I certainly hope that you will support Senator Remmers' amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, for clarification, I think it is important that you know that under Federal Program 94480 there are provisions for handicapped children and vocational education and special needs. That is where much of the \$3 million we presently get from federal monies go in terms of helping those kinds of people with unique learning problems. Now for us to add another dimension here, we are going to give a greater emphasis to that than it already has...not that I am opposed to it. I talked to Senator Remmers. If he wants to add another dimension of a weighting program for treating expensive vocational programs and those who do it, let's add another dimension in there by a simple amendment for handicapped vocational programs 1.75, because of the expense that's incurred in addition to what you get from the federal government under special needs or handicapped provisions. That's what 94480 is all about. Now we know that those funds may be reduced because we all read in the paper each day what Mr. Stockman's going to do and what the Congress is going to do. So I cannot accept Senator Remmers' provision, but I would be willing to amend the section which provides for a weighting of that kind of program for those schools who have a heavy burden in this area. Now to Senator Lamb I would say this, where we had LB 486 which was an authorization bill to revise the old formula, we did not pass that bill until we were certain there was going to be a corresponding A bill to make certain the formula is put in place for the good of all schools. And I assure you I do not intend to let 318 go to the Governor without those dollars necessary, because that indeed would handicap some schools in the State of Nebraska, and I don't want to do that. And you have a commitment from me that when we run about \$4 million into the present budget of 95, which would bring it to about \$99 million, if we can't get that \$4 million, 318 will sit right on Final Reading and we will