April 28, 1981

LB 134

which are designed purely and simply to gut the Sunshine Act? Those amendments have been distributed to you today. Now we are being manipulated again by the versatile John DeCamp. This is a good bill. It is a simple bill designed to do a simple thing, prohibit the use of campaign funds for anything except campaigning. In response to a criticism Senator Higgins made last Friday, it is not going to solve all of the problems of political corruption in this state but it is not designed to solve all the problems of political corruption in this state. It is designed to deal with one specific issue. It does that in a very competent fashion. Finally, if we don't pass this bill we are going to be sending out another message to the people of the State of Nebraska and that message, ladies and gentlemen, is that with respect to a few individual members, yes, you do indeed have the best Legislature money can buy. Now don't be tricked into opposing this bill. Vote against the kill motion. Vote against subsequent amendments. Let's get this thing passed and part of the law of the State of Nebraska as it should be. Thank you.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Wesely, you are next.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I think Senator Hoagland has expressed a number of concerns but I think it is important to point out that I would like to remove personalities from a lot of the discussion I think. I think what has happened has happened and I think what we should discuss today is the question of policy, the question of philosophy for this body and I think that it is important that we focus in on those questions and remember the fact that we have had some past controversy, that the people of the state are aware of the issues. I think they are concerned about the issues. I think that you will find universal support for doing something in this body this session to deal with some of those issues. I think the concerns that Senator Fenger talked about as far as the amendments and, oh, my gosh, we have so many amendments, we can't really deal with. I think there is nothing wrong with the fact that people have different ideas on this bill, that we can fully discuss some of those different items. I think that we have had other bills and this is a major bill. It is no minor bill so I think taking the time with it is not wrong. I think it is the right thing to do so the argument that we have so many amendments, we should just kill the bill does not make sense I don't think. The arguments should be, in fact, that this is an important bill we should spend some time with, that the public is concerned and that they would like to see the Legislature take some action and that action should be as carefully thought through as possible and I think

3984