

May 6, 1981

LB 559

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, I move the previous question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been asked for, do I see five hands. I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Senator Haberman, for what purpose?

SENATOR HABERMAN: A point of order, Mr. Chairman. You only had two people talk on this.

SENATOR CLARK: Are you on the other side?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Yes.

SENATOR CLARK: All right, go ahead.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I rise to support this program. It is a very, very, very important program. I personally have been acquainted with and know at least fifteen to twenty people out in my district who have taken this program and they have been anywhere in the age from eighteen to forty-five and they are asking for \$7,500 and, basically, it is a testing program and they have to have the testing program. They have to visit these sites at least twice a year and beings as they don't have a big budget and don't ask for a lot of money, let's don't look down our noses at this program and say that it doesn't amount to anything because it isn't important. This program does not cost a lot of money but it does a world of good. It gives lots of people a second chance. They made a mistake and they want to go back and have a second chance and this program allows them to do it. And so I ask you and I urge you to support \$7,500 increase for the GED program. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers, do you wish to close? Senator Beutler has now put his light on.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to make one point on some information that I have heard with regard to the GED program and that is that this program is being made available to students who are of high school age and some students that I have heard of here in the City of Lincoln are quitting high school so that they can take the GED. I think that that program, if that is what is happening in fact, is serving as a discentive to stay in high school and finish high school and I suggest maybe they would better conserve and spend their money by not spending money and creating these types of incentives and taking that money and spending it on