

May 12, 1981

LB 245A

SENATOR SCHMIT: I have heard of that yes.

SENATOR KOCH: The other day I tried to get a \$145,000 back in the budget for the Regents, yet I was advised there is money there that they can do it anytime they want to. Are you aware of this?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would guess Senator Koch, that in a budget of 146 million dollars there is some flexibility.

SENATOR KOCH: And would you make certain that the Board of Regents put that program back in in July for the interest of about 250 students?

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is not my interest, Senator Koch. I think the Department of Engineering is capable of taking care of themselves. I'm sure that you are much more affluent and effective in that area than I am and I would leave that to you.

SENATOR KOCH: One further question Senator Schmit. The Board of Regents is on record as saying that we will not take a position on the vet college, we will under certain conditions, that is that no program and the other standing colleges will be diminished in terms of quality or in terms of offerings, are you aware of that statement by the Board of Regents?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I think the University is a growing living institution and that all programs need to be reassessed at all...every year because of the changing times and the need for the program might change.

SENATOR KOCH: Would you admit though that engineering is a rather important technology in this day and age?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I can remember Senator Koch in 1950 when I graduated my advisor in engineering college said there would never be enough jobs for all the engineers. He said it was a waste of time to be educating all of these engineers. Now they are beating down the doors for them. That is the market system. Today they need a lot of engineers, maybe five years from now they won't. Ten years ago engineers couldn't find a job when they were out of school.

SENATOR KOCH: But in other words you are saying to us without a doubt that the Board of Regents, their integrity