

May 14, 1981

LB 466

SPEAKER MARVEL: Are there others who wish to speak to the Labeledz amendment? To the Marsh amendment to the Labeledz amendment? Senator Cullan, do you wish to speak to the Labeledz amendment or the Marsh amendment to the Labeledz amendment?

SENATOR CULLAN: Yes, I do, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I would like to object to the Marsh amendment to the bill. I think it is unwise of us to change the age of majority in this particular case. I think there should be a very compelling reason for us to change the majority, to deviate from the age of majority which is used in all other or most other instances as far as the State of Nebraska is concerned. In my opinion, Senator Marsh has not given us adequate and compelling reasons for us to differentiate between individuals who are the age of majority and those who are sixteen. I believe it is sixteen in her current amendment, and without some adequate justification to make that distinction, I see no reason for us to differentiate. For one thing we are talking about levels of maturity and I think that someone who is seventeen years of age has just as many critical maturity problems as someone who is sixteen and in many cases as someone who is fifteen, and what we are really doing when we establish the age of majority is making a presumption about the maturity level of individuals. Now obviously some individuals are more mature than others at different ages but our presumption should be logical presumptions, and the presumption that someone who is seventeen to make these decisions unassisted is simply not logical, and I think that unless Senator Marsh can show us a compelling reason to differentiate from current state law in other areas, then we should not adopt Senator Marsh's proposal. I would urge you to reject it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak, do you wish to speak to the Marsh amendment to the Labeledz amendment?

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, I call the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Okay. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? We have got a lot of work to do this afternoon before we get through. Have you all voted? Clerk, record the vote.

CLERK: 11 ayes, 9 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.