

May 18, 1981

LB 561

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: I call the question.

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

CLERK: Senator Clark voting yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Voting on ceasing debate. While we are waiting for that vote, I would like to announce some guests of Senator Wagner under the South balcony, Brenda Perry from Lincoln and Mary Jo Rassmusen, daughter of Dennis Rassmusen, also from Lincoln. Will you stand and be recognized, please? Welcome to the Legislature. Record the vote. Did you record the vote, Pat?

CLERK: 26 ayes, 7 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I think the arguments were fairly presented. Senator Goodrich raised similar concerns in the committee. We talked with Senator Goodrich at length as to specific instances, specific allegations, specific charges, but as on the floor today, generally we were answered with generalities. Now I am inclined to believe my good friend Senator Goodrich and I think we need to take a look at the situations, specifically in Omaha, and I would be willing to do that this summer but I think we need to remember that this money goes to regions other than Omaha. There are clients in other communities in this state as well as the City of Omaha. There are clients in Norfolk, Wayne, Scottsbluff, Hastings, Lincoln, other communities and other regions that need to be served. Senator Von Minden and I attended a meeting this summer between Region IV and selected school administrators as to which organization was going to provide essential services, both being in dire straits for money. You know it boils down to the bottom line as to where are our priorities. You know, is it gymnasiums, and there is nothing wrong with gymnasiums, or is it handicapped people? Are we people of our word when we say that you shall do this and encourage them and give them incentives to do this and then not provide the ongoing funding? I don't believe so. I think we will stay with our word. Now it is my understanding again in the Omaha situation that there is one lawsuit pending now and that lawsuit has not been settled and I think anyone on this floor knows the sensitive and complicated subject material we are talking about there is bound to be allegations and there is bound