

May 19, 1981

LB 320

also. I don't think they are going to go hog wild.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan, you are recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, when the people from the Western Technical Community College area approached me and asked me if I would support LB 320, I told them that I would after considering the bill and studying it on three conditions if three amendments were adopted. Those three amendments will be presented to you before I will vote on this bill. This is the first one. The second one has to do with what I think is the intentional skirting of the intention of the Legislature on capital construction. That amendment is coming. And the third one is also on capital construction. I would ask those of you who do not... are not affected by this amendment and who are really not affected by LB 320 to ask you if you would support the philosophy of the Legislature saying to the City of Omaha or Douglas County, we are willing to lift the limitation on property tax in those jurisdictions. That is what you are asking, that is what is happening here. You are lifting the limitation on property taxing authority in one part of the state. Now if what Senator Kremer has said is true, if what Senator Nichol has said is true, that we ought to support vocational education and take off the restraints, then let's take off the 2 1/2 mil statewide, but let's not just say there are problems in western Nebraska and so we are going to treat western Nebraskans differently. This problem comes to us every year because there is a basic fundamental problem with the system of funding the technical community colleges. I oppose any more property tax authority for these people, because I don't think that there is local control. It is regional control and there is nothing local about a 25 county area, or about a 12 county area. How many of you in this Legislature can name more than two or three members of the board of governors of a technical community college? Very few, I bet. I think that the system is not a local system, but more than anything I think it is wrong to give special taxing authority for an extended period of time to one political subdivision in one part of the state. That is the issue. I hope you will reject it, or I hope you will adopt this amendment and limit that for a period of time. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Cullan amendment. All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Senator Cullan, what's your pleasure?