

May 22, 1981

LB 472A

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would call the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I don't. The next speaker is Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Unicameral, let's go back two or three weeks. We picked up the newspaper and the talk of the Legislature was that a minister is going to go to jail. The rotunda was packed with ministers that said, please don't let this man go to jail because of his religious beliefs. He is going to go to jail and this is a terrible thing to go to jail because of your religious beliefs. I walked out into the rotunda and I walked up to these men and I said, who told you that this man was going to go to jail? Well, what do you mean? I said, who told you he was going to go to jail? Did the District Judge tell you he was going to go to jail? Well, no, maybe he did in his private chambers. I said, well now let's come right back to it, did the Judge say he was going to go to jail? The answer is no. Deacon DeCamp said, the Attorney General said he is going to go to jail. Well, the Attorney General can't put him in jail until the District Judge is through with him. So that flies out the window. So this body was panicked. We touched the panic button to do and to change something because someone possibly could go to jail. Now, I ask you, what would happen if they put a minister in jail because of his school? Well, Judge Krivosha, the Supreme Court Judge, would probably have a heart attack because he is trying to have good public relations with the people in the State of Nebraska to show that the judges are doing good things and then one of them puts a minister in jail. He's not going to go to jail. Now they might put him on probation or something like this, but they are not going to put him in jail. Now I have got some people in my district, the Mennonites, and they have their school. They have been down here twice and asked me would I help them with legislation with their school. And I told them, yes. But I don't know whether they agree to what we are doing because they haven't seen it. They haven't had a chance to read it. I don't know whether the Amish religion is in favor of what we are doing because they haven't had a chance of any input. I don't know about the people in my district how they feel because we haven't had an opportunity to have any input. Furthermore, it's a rule that says they must have certified teachers and the Administrative Rules Committee is having a public hearing