

January 14, 1982

LB 378

To heck with the government. You know that whenever you get government funds you get government regulations. And the board of directors, these doctors said to me, well, Marge, 70 percent of our patients are Medicare. Stupid politician that I was I started laughing, and I said, excuse me, I am sorry, but when I was a kid in highschool I remember you doctors were the ones fighting Medicare.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute left.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Now you are begging to keep it. I really think for the good of all the people in Nebraska time is not of the essence on this bill. We have got time to hear the amendments and bring it back to the floor and I will do my best to support the amendments if Senator Cullan is worried that if we bring it back for public hearing that he wouldn't get the support of the full committee. I always try to listen to both sides of the question. That is why I am standing up here today. I would hope that we would give something this crucial a little more attention and time since it isn't going to cost us anything. Thank you, Senators.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I appreciate all of the calls that have been made that these amendments are premature and so on and so forth. That is why I have circulated to each of you previously a memorandum that shows you the differences between LB 378 and the differences between request #1318. As you can see, the great, great majority of these issues are exactly the same. The majority of sections and the content of the bill are very, very similar, and where they differ, generally they are the same concepts that are changed raising the threshold from one figure to another. I don't see any benefit in having another public hearing. I think that this is a tough issue. I recognize that. It is not simple but I don't see any reason that this bill is going to be any more simple six weeks from now or two months from now. The only thing that is going to happen in that period of time is the Legislature is going to be very, very busy and there might be a lot of reasons to compromise on this issue with other issues and so on and so forth. But if we are going to look at the issues on the merits, I don't see why we can't do it today and on Select File. I am not hard core on this bill. If there are some Senators that have concerns about it and you want to sit down and visit, we will try to work out some amendments if you think they are necessary but I think that the package which I presented in the committee, presented

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