

January 15, 1982

LB 370

amendments that Senator Koch presented. We are now under the terms of this law including certain educational operations such as H & R Block and certain real estate schools. This change in the law affected by LB 370 assures the educational consuming public that the operation of these schools are being monitored, and in the case of any abuse, there is some agency for the consumer to look up to for redress. Excluding these schools from the licensure would be discriminating...would be discrimination in application of the law. I feel the basic reasoning for this legislation is that there are a number of these institutions that have grown considerably in the past and the number of consumers, both potential students and the public that they affect, requires that the state licensing assures the protection to which they are entitled. The bill also clarifies some other certain portions of the act and I refer specifically to branch operations, branch agents, the bonding that is required and it spells out the licensure fee for these branches and for the agents. We specifically refer to the fact that when these schools desire to be accredited and award associate degrees that this has to be done within an operational time of five years. Licensure does not permit immediate authority. The accreditation of the privately operated vocational schools must work with the Department of Education and must be accredited within five years or they stand at that time to lose their license. I think probably and most importantly what this bill does is it actually clarifies some of the existing law. I thank you for your attention and I would urge that we take consideration to move this legislation through the halls of government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, a question of Senator Goll.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Goll, do you yield?

SENATOR COPE: Senator Goll, let's have a specific example, say, then I have another question.

SENATOR GOLL: Well, H & R Block would be an example and probably this is the reason that the Board of Education has brought this piece of legislation to us, and for them I am sponsoring this bill. H & R Block conducts schools of instruction in a vocation, in this case, accounting and tax work and they have been, prior to this time, excluded from this bill because their tuition was less than \$150, their students were below the number specified in the act.