

January 26, 1982

LB 274

SENATOR COPE: Yes. Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Higgins.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Higgins, do you yield?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Yes, sir.

SENATOR COPE: Senator Higgins, you say that the education would probably be done in Atlantic City or Reno or some place at a convention. Doesn't it specify... let's see, LB 274 requires, now this is a quote from a letter I received. I haven't checked it in the bill. It says, "LB 274 requires a licensed agent to satisfactorily complete 24 hours in continued education courses approved by the Director of Insurance." Now it seems to me that that has a little bite in it, that it does have restrictions of what this is. It isn't a vacation in Reno.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Cope, the Director of Insurance may approve the courses, but it doesn't say who is going to give those classes and where they are going to be given. Just like Senator Pirsch just came down and pointed out to me now, doctors are required to have so many hours of education every year. They usually get them at medical conventions, and again they can walk into the place where they are giving the seminar, sign their name and walk out, and that is exactly what insurance agents will be able to do at these conventions. If you read the bill, there is nothing there about who is going to give the course, where it is going to be given. It just says, the Director of Insurance will determine what will be in the course.

SENATOR COPE: Well, it is I think impossible. I think that comes in the rules and regulations of the Director of Insurance. You can't put in statute they are to be given at the Holiday Inn at Kearney or exactly what. I think your explanation is a little far fetched there. I think that we should have, as a person who buys insurance, everyone in this room, we need more protection than we are getting at the present time. We let it go. We buy insurance policies. I don't know anything about that policy. I don't try to learn. I take the judgment of the person I am buying from, and they are the ones that I am going to if I have problems, but if they weren't aware of it and didn't know, I am still the fall guy, and I don't like that idea. So right or wrong, I guess I am going to have to vote against your amendment.