

January 29, 1982

LB 592

the Youth Development Center in Kearney for mendicancy. Mendicancy, incidentally, is being a beggar. Now apparently years ago in our society we had little street gamins who went out with caps in hands, these were the early day Horatio Algiers, and they begged and somehow our society didn't like that and so we decided that we would take those little fellows, and if they were beggars, we would put them in this Youth Development Center in Kearney, and that is as simple as that. But we haven't had street beggars of that kind for years and years and years and I suspect that our sensibilities about such folk have changed. Anyhow Mr. Benson thinks they have so he says this is an obsolete provision and it ought to be dropped from the statutes. And as I looked at it, I said, "Boy, this sure is obsolete", and I would recommend that we drop this from the statute in our obsolete statute repeal bill. I would offer this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, we had the bill drafter check this amendment that Senator Hoagland and Senator Johnson have offered and she has concurred that it could properly fall within this bill and so I have no objection to the amendment offered.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: A question of Senator Johnson.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Johnson, will you yield?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Of course I will yield if Senator Fowler begs me.

SENATOR FOWLER: Yes, I beg you now that it is legal. You indicate that it only applies to boys, is that correct?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That is correct.

SENATOR FOWLER: Then why does your amendment on line 16 add "or her".

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I hadn't read that far in the amendment but I suppose that is done for the purpose of taking care of some kinds of boys who may masquerade in women's clothing.

SENATOR FOWLER: Is that a crime?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, that is not a crime. I don't know, Senator Fowler.

7223