

February 2, 1982

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North Omahans to get to work where their jobs now are. They used to be in the downtown. They used to be in our area, now they are in the west and the southwest along the Interstate. We need this access as much as any other part of the city because we are going to see a time when jobs alone will determine the economic well being of a community and its individuals. I have prepared a packet trying to take a page out of Senator Chambers' book, very simple little packet that deals with the public support for this road. Basically, every poll that has been taken by friend or foe says that the people in North Omaha want the road. In fact, one of the reasons that Senator Chambers, in my opinion, has come to this issue and fought this issue long after the relocation of the individuals, long after the pathway for this road has been built is because he couldn't have done it before. The opposition, those people that wanted to move to make room for this road who moved into better housing throughout North Omaha, throughout the City of Omaha, those people wanted to move, those people wanted the road, and they still want the road today. I urge this body to remember that Omahans, the state, need and want this road, Senator Chambers' objections notwithstanding, it is important to the economic viability and to the health of our community.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise in support of the kill motion, but more importantly against the bill, and I do that for several reasons. Number one, what is really intended is for the what is now an expressway to go north to just beyond Lake Street and then an interconnector go from there on down to the airport and another connector go northwest up to 72nd Street where it will intersect with I-680, that is approximately at the Immanuel Hospital up there. The plan is good. It gives a way of getting through and getting around in North Omaha. The total cost of the first section of the project which goes up beyond Lake Street there would be approximately \$50 million. \$21 million of that has been spent already. It would seem useless to me to just abandon that expenditure of \$21 million and the fact that some of the concrete on this highway has been laid, it is laid up to Hamilton Street already, the highway was changed from an interstate to an expressway and Senator Chambers touched on that already. When that was done and subsequent to that, a number of alterations were made in the design of the expressway, special berms, for example, to cut the sound from the interstate to the residents, other access means were added to it to get people...let people on and off the thing. Everything has

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