

February 2, 1982

LB 364

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Okay, that is what I wanted to get clear.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Chambers, if he does anything good in office, don't give me the credit for it, but if he does anything bad, I don't take the blame.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Here is the point, that meeting....what I said is that the Mayor won't answer questions on the project, and he won't. We have talked about it. I prepared a report that he asked me to prepare. I sent it to him as he asked me to do. He promised to answer and he did not answer, and if he says he did, he is not telling the truth. I saw him in a store at 72nd and Dodge, Senator Higgins. He was with his wife and he promised to meet and talk with me and his wife gave one of those, oh, Mike, don't say that again. And we didn't meet after that either, and ask him. But here is the point I am getting to. You are getting misinformation. The meeting that occurred in the Mayor's office included people from Northwestern Bell, Northern Natural Gas, Omaha National Bank, Union Pacific Railroad, Mutual of Omaha, Mr. Anderson from the World Herald, and they did not go on record supporting the Freeway. As a matter of fact, Mr. Suttle and Mr. Boyle could not answer the questions that were being asked. That is what happened at that meeting. But the point I want to get across to the members of the Legislature....

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute left, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...is this, we have a project and the project is going to cost a huge amount of money. The money is not there. There are requirements in the federal law for the completion of these projects. It will take... it has to be completed by 1986. The phone company, or one of them has indicated that the contracts that they would have to comply with will take them about six years and they can't even estimate the cost yet. So I think with a project of this kind, if you vote to kill this bill, then I think all you have done is put the state in a position to be assuring a commitment of state money to complete this project. I am asking that you do not vote to kill this bill at this point.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Marsh, did you wish to speak again?

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, thank you. I have some more questions. Senator Chambers, would you please respond to some questions?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I will.