

March 4, 1982

LB 628

Legislature, I imagine each one of us has this handout on our desk which says that LB 628 keeps in front of school boards and administrators the need to continue, with continue being underlined, the progress made in opening more doors and opportunities for all students. To put a funding amendment on this bill is an insult to the hard work of the educators of Nebraska who have worked to accomplish the progress that has been made in this area within their budgets. Goodwill and good work is the funding which is necessary for the success of LB 628. The educators of Nebraska have expressed their willingness and eagerness to give it their support. You are aware, I am sure, that no one appeared against this proposal and many, many, many people were in support. I support LB 628 and I hope the thinking members of this body will not add this insulting amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, members, I rise to support Senator Peterson. We have other opportunities besides sports I am sure that involve both male and female but our sports program in Nebraska, especially, is something else. We are not willing to fund basic education to the point that in my estimation it should be funded but we go nuts for sports, and if you don't believe it, you watch what happens in this city in the next few days. We don't have enough money to provide for the necessary number of teachers that we need. We don't have money to afford transportation that many of our schools are faced with. Senator Beutler evidently isn't aware that the seven percent lid is squeaky tight. There is absolutely nothing left for school boards to work with and I am of the opinion that Senator, I believe, Hefner mentioned that if we are going to demand things of school districts and school boards that we had better pay for them. And as far as taking the money out above the seven percent lid, that is a joke. That is not going to happen in this session with this group this year. So I think it is working pretty good the way it is. I don't think we need to force anything upon anybody. The community should have something to say about that. The parents should have something to say about it so I just think if we put half the stress...think of the deal that is happening with football alone. They think they are going to raise a hundred thousand dollars to supplement the coaching staff for our football team, our football coaches. If you would go out and try to get that kind of money to teach science or math or English, you wouldn't get ten cents. So we had better put our priorities where they belong and that is on education and not so much on whether the girls play basketball or the boys play basketball or