

March 9, 1982

LB 652

you a question so I can understand what you were talking about, if possible. Will you yield to a question?

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Sure will.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Howard Peterson, is it your contention that the person teaching should have no education requirement at all, is that what you meant?

SENATOR H. PETERSON: It is my contention that those who will be teaching will be able to teach and not necessarily are we going to try to set up a standard in terms of a standard. That is one of the problems with the present law. I have had excellent teachers all through my life. I had noncertified teachers all through my college career. I didn't need certified teachers. They taught just as well or better than certified teachers. We don't have certified teachers in colleges today. I don't think we need to put a criterion into the bill. I think the parents can make that decision for their children.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Peterson, here is what I am asking you, not about certification but education. Do you think that a grade school education is too high a standard? Do you think it ought to be maybe three years?

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Ernie, I would like for the parents of the children to make that decision. I honestly believe they can do a better job than the 49 Senators on this floor in making that decision.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Peterson. And on into the valley of the 18th Century rode the Legislature except that they had higher standards in some regards than what we are asking for here. Now understand that this bill should be read in the context of what is happening in education in Nebraska and I am really shocked that those people who claim all this religious concern don't look out for the future of the children. Right now UN-L is talking about admission standards which will be based on certain courses having been taken by students prior to getting to the University. So Senator Peterson is going to have some nice well-intentioned person who would think that two plus two are six but never the well-meaning well teaching that to these children and they learn a hundred percent of what they are taught but a hundred percent of what they were taught is wrong. Now Senator Peterson said he had uncertified teachers and I wouldn't argue the fact with him at all because from some of the things he says it is clear, but as far as what we are talking about here today, if you know