

March 16, 1982

LB 896

SENATOR NICHOL: Are there any of these courses that would be mandated if this law were to pass?

SENATOR KOCH: Only based upon the need of certain people, in other words, if the class can support itself, first of all in terms of tuition plus state aid which we provide plus some local property tax which we also provide the community college.

SENATOR NICHOL: Would there be any requirements in addition to this for changing of buildings, building of rampways, accessibility to the....?

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Nichol, we all know that 508 applies to all schools right now for ramps and things of that nature. We already have those in place because of, I forget what the act is, but it is 508, that is the number.

SENATOR NICHOL: So for the record this bill would not have any bearing on that whatsoever?

SENATOR KOCH: None whatsoever because these schools already have those provisions.

SENATOR NICHOL: Very good, thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Nichol asked, if I understand correctly, would this be a voluntary thing on the part of the board and the bill says the technical community college area individually and collectively shall, shall provide the following instructional and service priorities. Then it changes it to include programs specifically designed to meet the needs of handicapped persons over the age of 18. It says it shall provide. It does not say "may". It says "shall". Also not only is speech impairment, the visually handicapped, emotionally disturbed, orthopedically impaired or have exceptional learning disabilities, now that is pretty broad, and the reason I am standing up and speaking against this is I have counties at the present time without this addition that costs these counties \$30,000 a student to go to the voc-tech schools in taxes. They had five students at \$150,000 which is over their road budget and in some cases these taxes are half of their entire budget or some of these counties and this is going to make it worse. I do not feel that we should say to these people you "shall" provide this and then not provide the funds from the state. We are mandating that the voc-tech schools shall