March 22, 1982

LB 942

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I don't know what this urban senator is doing up here again fighting for you rural people. This is my second time this year to get up and fight for a bill that is going to help you more than it will the people that live in the big cities. We have all the medical doctors we need in Omaha and Lincoln. It is my understanding that a lot of people in the rural areas don't have the benefit of a physician. The closest they come to it is a chiropractor, very often. I'm rising in support of Senator Chronister's amendment simply because those people that don't live that close to a physician and who at late hours of the night or because they are unable to travel great distances they would like a chiropractor, they go to a chiropractor, I think they should be allowed to. I think everybody should have the right to choose the type of medical assistance they are going to have. Now it isn't going to ffect me or the eople in Omaha "hootin! or hellerin!" if we take these other medical people out of this bill. But I just want you to know that as an urban senator I'm not always thinking just of the people in my district, in my city, but I also think of all the people in this state and their rights. For this reason I think you should go for the Chronister amendment, particularly you rural senators because I think you are going to be more affected by it than those of us in Lincoln and Omaha and cities like Grand Island. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Chronister, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Thank you, Mr. President, members I believe if we do not adopt my amendment we might be falling for a deception of false economy because by not adopting this amendment we eliminate the services of optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors when perhaps their services are all that are required. It would not require the services of a medical doctor who by, in most instances would be more expensive. I think we would be cost conscilute and save money in the long run by the adoption of this amendment. I urge your support. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Question before the House is the adoption of the Chronister amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 20 ayes, 3 nays on adoption of Senator Chronister's amendment, Mr. President.