

March 24, 1982

LB 761

with Senator Beutler's amendment which is to eliminate the high school Driver's Education program, to eliminate the funding for it, that is the state funding for it. At this time I am not prepared to fully agree with transferring those monies to Vocational Education, and so what my amendment does very simply it amends the Senator Beutler amendment by simply stripping out the Driver's Education money and once that is gone there would then be no transfer of funds to Vocational Education. I would offer this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment to the amendment and the amendment. I would suggest to Senator Vard Johnson and to Senator Beutler that next year would be a very appropriate time to bring in that legislation to do as they desire to do, but this is great, major kind of legislation they are trying to maneuver with simply an amendment to an amendment. I would remind the body that we took action to increase driver's license, that money going in part to the general fund and now with the intent in mind that there would be dollars to support Driver Education. Now whether you choose to continue this indefinitely is a decision this body has the right to make, but to make it on March 24th when this Legislature has eleven additional legislative days pending is a waste of our time and our energy and is unwise kind of legislating. We have a responsibility and part of that is not to use an amendment in lieu of a bill that should have been introduced in January and had a public hearing. I deeply resent the action taken on the floor to do this kind of maneuvering and it is a kind of maneuvering. It is not fair to the citizens of Nebraska. They may very well wish to do what Senator Vard Johnson wants or what Senator Beutler wants, but the time to do it is through a public hearing, through the public process, to be honest with the people of the State of Nebraska. I oppose both the amendment to the amendment and the amendment itself.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, just a couple of comments. If you read the article passed out by Senator Beutler from the Christian Science Monitor on this study that was made, you better read it all, don't just read a part of it. Roughly half of the car related fatalities involving 16 and 17 year olds will occur between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. Now I ask you, don't blame that onto Driver's Education. Blame that onto poor parental actions. I can't believe that my sons that age would be out