

April 1, 1982

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that the State Legislature was not being perfidious or dealing in deceptiveness when it went on record in favor of this project. If you appropriate the money, Senator Duda, the project that you want will be underway. The construction industry is worried about a lack of jobs because bids cannot be opened, weather conditions, and the economy. This would produce jobs to the tune of \$26 million. Now who can quarrel or argue with that? This is better than the snake oil that used to be offered by these traveling carnival hucksters. This is real money aimed at a real project which the best engineering and road constructing minds in the state have said is absolutely essential. It is needed to complete the transportation system in Omaha, Nebraska. Now if you don't adopt this amendment, a number of conclusions may be drawn; that the engineers don't know what they are talking about; that the people who said that it is necessary to have this road to complete Omaha's transportation system don't know what they are talking about; and that those who said the Legislature was serious in supporting this project don't know what they are talking about. So if you will consider this very reasonable modest proposal, I think we can get this project on the road. And let me share something with you that shows that my attempts on this project are improving. February 1st of this year there was a vote taken on LB 364, and ill-fated bill of mine which was designed to stop construction of the Freeway. That was defeated 25 to 3. I then offered a resolution February 7th, LR 214, which was demolished 34 to 0 and what that resolution provided for was the utilization of state funds if the federal funds should dry up. But then things began to take a turn upward for me. LR 22 was offered March 3rd and that was defeated 28 to 9. I had tripled the support that I originally had. So with things on this upward swing, you could say that I am on a roll as far as this particular issue is concerned and we don't want to stop a good thing. Now what LR 22, 222 did, in case it slips your recollection, was to say that if no federal funds are guaranteed for this project, there should be no construction started. That resolution having failed, it seems to me that what the Legislature was telling me and everybody else is that...

SENATOR NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...in the event that federal funds are not guaranteed and the project is not called off, then it must go forward and the only way it can go forth in these times is with money. The only one with enough money to offer what is needed is the State Treasury. We in the Legislature have the key to that Treasury. I am asking you to insert it into the lock, and in a sense this is a mixing of

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