

April 1, 1982

LB 761

SENATOR WESELY: And for the scholarships. That is what we are talking about.

SENATOR GOODRICH: \$170,000 to handle both the administration and the scholarship program?

SENATOR WESELY: I think the administration is already there. I think that is just the money for the scholarships, Senator Goodrich. That is the intent.

SENATOR GOODRICH: \$170,000 is all you are going to appropriate for the actual scholarship program then? Thank you very much.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Wesely, would you like to close on your amendment, please?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I sure hope Senator Newell feels better now after he got a little off his chest about some earlier matters. But getting back to the issue, what we are trying to do is to add \$170,000 into the budget to begin the scholarship program for students. That was declared constitutional. The same amendment with some changes, \$10,000 less dollars than what was considered this morning. Over the noon hour I read the morning Herald and saw that there was an article by Robert Pike from UNO who talked about cuts in aid would devastate students, and that is one of the reasons I think we ought to reconsider our action and go ahead and put some money in. It is clear the new federalism has cut back on federal student aid and that our college students in Nebraska are going to be hurt severely by that. This is one indication. You have seen other articles as well, and I think if we are going to follow the new federalism if the federal government isn't going to be as active in this area perhaps we ought to consider doing something on the state level to supplement the lost funds. This certainly won't cover the cuts that the federal government has made. They have made substantial cuts, substantial. But this is a small effort on our part to try and do a little bit to help our students and our colleges in the State of Nebraska. So I would ask your support for the amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Were you through?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: The question is the Wesely amendment. All those in favor signify by voting aye, opposed the same sign. I better correct what I said. Those in favor vote yes, opposed no. Please vote. 14 are excused, Senator Wesely.