

April 6, 1982

LB 761

SENATOR CLARK: We are voting on ceasing debate. Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator Howard Peterson, do you wish to close?

SENATOR HOWARD PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, let me first of all say that what I am addressing here today is not just this particular problem. We need to recognize that the employees in this state the last three years have had a 35% increase in salary which isn't all that bad if you really look at the facts. Number two, we need to recognize that many of our larger employers in this state have done exactly the same thing as I am suggesting. Northern Natural is doing that in Omaha and there are a number of others. Number three, if you read yesterday's Wall Street Journal, you will notice that the Wickes Company who happens to own Behlen Manufacturing in Columbus, Nebraska is in rather financial difficulty. It is very likely I would say that there will be some people in Columbus who will be very happy to have jobs, period. I can tell you today there are 345 people at New Holland in Grand Island who would like to have jobs who do not have them. This is true across this whole state. I think we need to recognize people or the fact that there are many who do not have jobs and I really believe, I have had some calls from some of the employees here in the State of Nebraska who aren't going to come out publicly but who have said, we would be satisfied just having a job, and I just think it is time for us to make that kind of a decision. So, Mr. Chairman, I would ask for a Call of the House with a roll call vote.

SENATOR CLARK: A Call of the House has been requested. All those in favor of a Call vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 0 nays to go under Call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The House is under Call. All Senators will return to their seats and check in please. All unauthorized personnel will leave the floor. Sergeant at Arms, would you get everyone back in their seats please. Could we get everyone checked in? Senator Landis, Senator Von Minden, Senator Vard Johnson, Senator Duda, Senator Lowell Johnson, Senator Wiitala. We are looking for Senator Higgins, Senator Kahle, Senator Schmit and Senator Nichol and we have got Senator Nichol. We have four people excused. Senator Schmit, will you check in please. Senator Higgins.