

April 6, 1982

LB 761

SENATOR HIGGINS: That is what DeCamp was telling me. If I put my light on at this time I would get a chance.

SENATOR CLARK: That will settle the wrestling match right there.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Chairman, all I want to say is the reason I am voting against this amendment is because I now see that the plan since we have fought so hard for these public employees' pay increase, now we are being told we are going to cut the employees. One way or the other we are going to save some money for the state and it is going to come out of the employees' unemployment. When I suggested that this state will not go under by doing away with out of state travel, then it was highly rejected. We got the speech from Senator Kahle about how much he had learned when he went to Atlanta, Georgia. I could learn as much by picking up the telephone and talking to people in other government bodies and save a lot of money. The point I tried to make before and the point I make now I am not at all objecting to it...Senator Kahle, you are probably the most discourteous Senator I have ever heard. Everytime someone gets up to speak, if you don't have the microphone, you yell out. Would you like to stand up and say can I interrupt, Senator Higgins? It would be more gentlemanly like...

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Higgins, if someone is going to reprimand him, I will. You go ahead and talk.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well, then you should reprimand him...

SENATOR CLARK: Go ahead. I will stop them. Go ahead.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Again, the point I am trying to make is, we have talked and talked about cutting employees' salaries and we have talked about biting the bullet and following the New Federalism and following the Governor and when I make the suggestion that the State of Nebraska will not go under if we Senators quit traveling to Washington, to Georgia, or to wherever, to meet other Senators to discuss and exchange ideas, this state will still exist and we will save enough money to keep the employees at a decent salary and not to have to let employees go. And the question I had my light on before for was I wanted to ask the Executive Chairman if they decide that certain Senators are going to have to cut staff, what criteria would they use to decide this and I didn't get a chance to ask that question.

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