

April 13, 1982

LB 212

to adopt these amendments, to support my motion to return LB 212 for the amendments which I have just described.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch. Senator Haberman, did you want to talk? Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, as you know LB 212 was a bill that I have been sponsoring and carrying. I just want to tell you that I basically support Senator Cullan's amendments. The only amendment with which I would have any personal difficulty is the one which delays the implementation date of LB 212 by one year. Under other circumstances I would probably fight that vigorously but there are some circumstances that have led me to think that is not a bad situation and that is this. When I introduced LB 212 at the beginning of last session it was opposed by the Nebraska Medical Association. The Nebraska Medical Association thought that the State of Nebraska really ought not to have any involvement with any type of a cancer registry and one of the things the Nebraska Medical Association has done over the last sixteen or seventeen months is that it has had many, many, many meetings with members interested in a tumor registry and the Medical Association has finally over the long pull, begun the process of establishing a registry of its own and I have been aware of it, I have watched it and I have talked to the people about it and the like. That registry would never be getting off the ground, I kid you not, but for the fact that 212 has served as a real goad to their getting things done. And it seems to me that it is in the best interest frankly of the state and its people to at least give the Medical Association an opportunity to test its wings and what the one year delay does is it does give the Medical Association a chance to get its own system in good order and if it finds a year from now that it has a fine system that assures basic public interest in having research knowledge available that accumulates data from a lot of different sources, then we can look at 212 at that time. But I think that it is most important, it is most important that 212 be funded from the cigarette tax, that 212 be on the books, that 212 have an effective date at least a year from next July and we'll take a look next year as exactly what has happened in the medical community. But I tell you one thing, fellow senators, the State of Nebraska will have a tumor registry system operating in the next several months.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, did you want to close?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, there was just some confusion, a couple of legislators approached me, so I want to make it very, very clear for the record. This is not new money for