

probably even any...I doubt that the Governor or probably many members of the Attorney General's Office are even aware that this opinion has been requested so perhaps I am very naive but I don't think that that is a factor. I have listened to Senator Beutler's arguments and I read the case that Senator Beutler and Senator Hoagland dug up for us and I think they did a very good job in a short period of time researching this particular issue and I think they are to be complimented for that. I do agree with the approach that the Legislature has already taken. If we cannot amend a statute to provide a state alternative to this area, an area which we were called in session to deal with, then I guess there is not much sense for us to do anything but automatically do what the federal government asks us to do. I would also point out, and I think this is important for the record, that the Public Health and Welfare Committee of the Legislature is not in LB 7 initiating any new state program. They are not initiating any new state action. They are simply providing that the philosophy and the programs of the State of Nebraska should continue as is, and we are going to make up this change, this slack in federal revenue that results from the changes in the federal government's program. So I do believe that our language certainly or that our action certainly falls within the scope of the Supreme Court decisions which Senator Hoagland and Beutler have presented to us. It is unfortunate the Attorney General's Office evidently did not find those same cases and I feel very comfortable in seeing that this bill is enacted as it sets now on Select File. The other point that I would make is that I would support at this point in time Senator Schmit's amendments that he will offer later so I don't have to get up and spend more time here this evening. I will support Senator Schmit's amendment to eliminate Section 7 so long as we lay an adequate record as to why the Legislature feels it should not enact that unconstitutional provision. I would urge you to act prudently, to reject the Warner amendments and to enact LB 7 to continue the policies of the State of Nebraska as they have been in effect since 1975.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I continue to be amazed at the power of lawyers. We got a letter from a lawyer about four-thirty this afternoon. As a result of that letter, we had to come back at seven o'clock so that we can talk about what the letter said. Now the thing that was so interesting to me as I read the letter is that it reminded me of Martin Luther. To some extent I think I have religion on my mind, and maybe because of the rotunda and Legislative Resolution #4 and some other things, but Martin Luther, as you know, one of his