

April 7, 1989

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SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Rex. Okay, now I am going to ask these questions. The first question is, and this is going to I think Senator Kristensen, because you have been the most vocal. All right, Senator Kristensen, I want for the record answers to these questions that have been posed to me by people in my district from outstate Nebraska. Number one, what is the purpose attempted to be achieved by making Kearney a part of the university system? And I want that on the record.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, the purpose is that that we basically have been discussing all day...

SENATOR SMITH: No, I want a statement that tells me what you are saying that they are intending for it to come out, for the purpose for this?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: For the purpose of the amendment, to put Kearney...

SENATOR SMITH: Yes,...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...into the university...

SENATOR SMITH: ...your basic reason for wanting this.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: The basic reason is, one, that Kearney is now a university in the way they act, the way they are governed, and the programs that they give. Sooner or later, Kearney will become a university whether in actual terms by name and officially. Now the issue...

SENATOR SMITH: Now, don't make this long.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I am not because I so conscious of your time and you have been abused on this.

SENATOR SMITH: I know.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: We can't have two competing university systems in this state. What this will do is bring Kearney into our one unified university system, and if we are going to have these universities, it makes a lot of sense to have it under one