

to the very legitimate desires and urgings of one community who I suspect maybe should heed, I think there is an old Chinese saying about, be careful what you wish for, you may get it. And I'm not sure this is in the best interests of Kearney. I'm not sure this is in the best interests of Omaha. I'm not sure... I know this isn't probably in the best interests of rural Nebraska outside the triangle it's encompassed by Kearney, Omaha and Lincoln and maybe not even then. So I am very concerned about the direction that we seem to be taking here and I regret to raise these kind of regionalism kinds of issues, but I think it is realistic to do so in the political context that we work here. I would vote to kill the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Haberman, your light is on next, but Senator Withem is entitled to speak on this in case the question is called, so would you mind if he speaks ahead of you? Please. Senator Withem. Senator Withem, before you speak I would like to introduce some guests we have under the north balcony, and you really should all know them since they are with the CAP, Civil Air Patrol. We have with us Colonel Richard Anderson, would you please stand Colonel Anderson, who is the Civil Air Patrol Commanding Officer of the State of Nebraska. And with him is Colonel Tom Handley, who is the national legal counsel for the Civil Air Patrol from the deep South. Colonel Handley, would you please stand. And Clyde Webb, the Nebraska Vice-wing Commander, would you please stand. Would you please welcome these gentlemen to our session today. Thank you, men, for visiting us today. Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, thank you for the opportunity to speak. I apologize for not raising that point right after the kill motion was filed, that I should have been defending my bill at that point under our new rule. I'm going to make a confession to members of the body, that I really did not know how I was going to vote on the Kearney State amendment, really up until the closing, really hadn't firmly made up my mind what the right thing to do. It has been troubling me all...ever since the bill was introduced. I did it, I voted for it, other members of the body voted for it and now I am convinced that I did the right thing. And I think it was Senator Wesely's speech probably that convinced me that I did, in fact, do the right thing. I don't know if I've been treated to a more blatant example of parochialism in this body since I've been here than what I heard in Senator Wesely's speech. We have...the flagship campus at the University of Nebraska, quite