

April 26, 1989

LB 429

Oklahoma, when he mentioned the two Catholic hospitals. Senator Chambers, there are two hospitals and there are two football teams, but in this case Bergan Mercy is being penalized. Thank you very much. Oh, I'm sorry. If I have any balance of time left...

PRESIDENT: Yes, you do.

SENATOR LABEDZ: ...I almost forgot, Owen Elmer would like the balance of my time.

PRESIDENT: Okay. You have a couple of minutes, Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. Two minutes will be plenty. The primary thing that's been espoused for the good of the State of Nebraska through CON is saving health care dollars. At the testimony of the CON for Bergan Hospital several things were brought out. And derived from that testimony that was given by the financial officers, from both St. Joe and Bergan Mercy Hospital, it's estimated that approximately \$10,000 per open heart surgery would be saved if Bergan Mercy were performing them, they'd be \$10,000 less. They estimate that they would do 150 to 200 per year. If these figures are correct, then that would save the Omaha health community \$1.5 million to \$2 million per year,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: ...based on those figures. I would urge the defeat of the Lindsay amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I introduce some guests, please, of Senator Coordsen in the south balcony. We have 48 fourth grade students from Geneva Elementary School at Geneva, Nebraska and their teacher. Would you students and teacher, please stand and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Hall, followed by Senator Conway.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, I would call the question.

PRESIDENT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.