

May 19, 1989

LB 183, 611

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, thank you. Thank you for giving me a little time. I did have an amendment up there delaying it for another year but I withdrew that. But I think we need to consider something here tonight at this late hour. LB 183 is a major policy change and here we have had it only a few months to discuss and it sounds good and I think it may work. But I'm not ready to rush into it because I don't see any reason to hurry. If it's so good, what's the rush? What's the rush? Here we're discussing more state aid to schools, which I supported. I didn't support the last amendment, 9 million, but I'm going to support some state aid. We're also talking about teacher salary. We're also talking about reorganization. Where is all this going to fit in? It's been mentioned on this floor that this is an opportunity for Nebraska to take the lead. Well, why do we want to take the lead on this when we have a couple other states that are trying it? I have some friends in Minnesota, they're worried about it. They're worried about it because they live in the rural area. They live in southwest Minnesota which is real closely to what we have in Nebraska and they don't know how it's going to affect them. Iowa just passed a bill this last year and I feel that they rushed into it too. I am very concerned how it's going to affect our rural districts and it may work in the urban areas. I don't know but I think you urban senators should be concerned about it too. But here we are talking about all these changes. We're talking about the changes of how we want to support school. Senator Moore has a bill, LB 611, that is going to change a lot of things. How is this going to work in with 183? And I just...this is why I want to just talk a little bit about this to you tonight. And so this isn't all one-sided, I will yield the rest of my time, if there is some time, to Senator Dennis Baack, if he cares to use it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Baack.

SENATOR BAACK: How much time do I have, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER BARRETT: About three and a half minutes.

SENATOR BAACK: Okay. I also have a bracket motion up there just in case I need a little longer than that because I do feel like I do need to respond. I will...I will be as brief as possible but I feel like I do need to respond to these...to the other statements that have been made. I think one of the...one of the main things that we need to think about with this bill is