

March 13, 1990

LB 1141  
LR 239

received lots of calls. And it's really interesting the number of calls I've received. It's like a deluge of calls that I received, starting Thursday, Friday, over the weekend, and yesterday, received calls from faculty, received calls from administrators, received calls from business people, all expressing reservations about the bill, concerns about how this is going to be implemented and possible disastrous consequences it might have. I've heard from state college representatives who have expressed a concern that, if the new system goes into effect, you're going to have the med center in Omaha, and UNO in Omaha combining forces and getting everything they want for themselves, and the state colleges are going to be completely left out of the consideration for the funding and the programs that they need. I've heard concern expressed from the community colleges. They are concerned about the bill. I've read in the newspapers reservations being expressed both in the Lincoln and Omaha newspapers. And all of these groups have called me and said, boy, I really like what you're doing. You know, could you think about this amendment? Could you offer this amendment? This might improve the bill, or could you think about some other type of amendment for my purposes? But the interesting thing, and I even had one group the other day thank me for putting in an amendment that I hadn't even put in yet. I thought they were talking about one amendment that I had proposed to LB 1141, which follows this, and they came in and said, thank you very much. And I said, well you're welcome, I think it's a good amendment. And they gave me some information, and I looked at the information after they had left and they were proposing a totally different amendment that I hadn't even introduced. The interesting thing about all of these people that have contacted me is that, and generally, all of them say, look, I really oppose this as an individual, I really have reservations about this entire structure that is being suggested and proposed, but I can't go public and make my views known, because I'm working for a particular institution; or my position with a particular body or organization prevents me from taking a position on this issue, or trying to reflect the views of that organization, because my organization has either been neutral on it, or my organization has been supportive of it; but I've really got concerns about the bill. There are a lot of concerns out there. People have extreme reservations. But, as one person said, I can't go public, I can't contact senators to express these views because we're afraid of the repercussions it may have for our particular institution, or for our particular organization. This bill is being sponsored by the head of the Revenue