

April 4, 1990

LB 247, 1059  
LR 239

address yet this year. There is time to do it and don't panic. There is plenty of time in the next couple of days to debate these things. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, please, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Warner.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, Mr. President, and members, I want to begin by differing with Senator Kristensen. I certainly didn't vote for LB 247 last year because I had no choice on Kearney State. The reason I voted for LB 247, the reasons are contained in Senator Warner's speech on what is wrong, the lack of coordination, how much it is going to cost. That is the problem we have on higher education. The reason I voted for LB 247 last year was to hopefully do something about it because we can't afford not to. It is eating us alive. The numbers Senator Warner gave you is to give you a better idea of what is going to happen. Coupled with what we did...what we may do on LB 1059, we are going to have less resources to deal with here. Something has to give. You know, what we need is a lean, mean education machine in this state. Instead, we have got something more like me, far from lean and mean, I will tell you that. Mean, mean, but not lean, as Senator Lamb says, but if you bracket LR 239, you simply say, well, yeah, LB 247 was a nice gesture last year, Kearney may or may not become part of the university, but we're going to do nothing on coordination. Now it's something is a problem that has festered that we can't afford to continue to ignore. Now Senator Rod Johnson and others have said, well, nobody comes up to me saying we are for LR 239. Well, no, they don't, but what do they come up with you? They come up to you and say what are you doing to try and streamline government? What are you doing to try and save taxpayer dollars? What are you doing to make sure we get the bang for the buck out of all taxpayer dollars? That is what they come and tell you. They come tell you that time and time and time again. And if there is one issue before the Legislature this year that really does something to try and allow us to spend our dollars better, it is LR 239. In many ways, I think it is very unfortunate that my priority bill, LB 1059, has been such a giant sponge that has taken way from a proper debate on LR 239 because we need it. I want a transcript of Senator Warner's speech. Think about it, what he said. We can't afford not to do something, and I don't care how much time it takes us but we have got to do something. If it's not this year, we have two more years before we are going to do something