

April 4, 1990

LB 247, 531, 1141  
LR 239

personally, is isn't it kind of funny how 8 out of the 9 members of the Appropriations Committee voted to advance this thing last time. I think both of those accusations are very unfair, both to Senator Withem and Senator Warner, because they were on...they voted for LB 247 last year, they worked on this all summer, long before things happened at the university. I know Senator Warner, in some of the conversations he spoke last year on the Kearney State issue, itself, talked about the need to do some of these things. He's introduced bills in the past to do some of these things. I think that's another unfair accusation. Now, Senator Withem, on the other hand has been more in my caliber, of beating the university over the head any chance we can, I guess. But I think it's important that the body, once again, go back to some of the things that Senator Warner said in his speech on the bracket motion. And unlike many of the speakers that have spoken from this microphone over the years, those shaped like me and those like Loran Schmit that care to make bold predictions on five years from now, hope you listened to some of the things Senator Warner said, because we're headed down the road for some trouble. And even if LR 239, the worst case, we pass it and, yes, for some reason the voters don't adopt it this time around, we begin the discussion and bring to light some of the things we need to do to improve our higher education in the state, and some of the things we need to do to go to our taxpayers and eventually spend some more money in the right fashion on higher education in this state. And so don't use the copout that, well, the voters are never going to adopt it. Don't use the copout that some people are trying to get even with the university. We've been talking about coordination for a long time. I know I, myself, introduced LB 531, last year, to do basically what Senator Warner's amendment to LB 1141 would do. Now, why do eight members of the Appropriations Committee vote like they do on this? You know, because we sit there and we look how we spend the money, and we just know we're not getting our money's worth right now, and we know there are troubles down the road. With that, I urge the adoption of the resolution. Hopefully, we can work our way towards 30 votes and get it on the ballot.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Question.

PRESIDENT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do, and the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor