

April 4, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

But, in general, it seems to me that we are on the right track here with trying to get at coordination without ruining the system that we already have and without splitting all these institutions up into several competing entities with their own separate boards. I think that would be a big mistake. I think this is a much better proposal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: I want to speak on the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Coordsen, on the Conway amendment.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. To borrow a trite phrase that has been echoed many times on this floor, I have not spoken on this issue up to this point, but I am compelled to speak at this time, as most of us in this body have had children that have went through the system and bits and pieces of the system and the major problem for many of us, those of us that have had children that have been in two or more different parts of our postsecondary education, is that problem of articulation of courses. Last week we made an appropriation on the floor of this body to correct what was perceived by many as being a moral injustice in that people had deposited money in institutions under the assumption that they were guaranteed by the State of Nebraska. Well, I would suggest to you that we have had many young people, the people for whom we maintain these institutions, who have also been shortchanged, that have deposited money in the system, and time, and hopes and dreams, and have found that those credit hours so arduously worked toward in one institution were not transferable to another. I think it's asinine in the State of Nebraska that we should allow a situation like this to continue to exist. I have not supported LR 239 and I did not believe that it affectively addressed the problem. I am supportive of the Warner amendment and also of the Conway amendment to the amendment because if we do not do this, then we have somehow left a piece of the puzzle unfound. If, as Senator Warner indicates, the Conway amendment would make this constitutionally suspect, what better time is there to find the correct language to ensure that the credits that are earned in any of our public postsecondary education systems might be transferable one to another? Some say it can't be done. Why? Thank you.