

April 9, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: I wanted to read that in so that the transcripts would include what was read, excuse me, what was handed out to the body, but I would urge that the amendment be adopted, and if it is adopted as is, then the two approaches can be read and the body can with 30 votes approve either of those amendments. They will be placed on the ballot, if you choose to...

PRESIDENT: Time. Thank you. Senator Lamb, you are the first of nine speakers, as followed by Senator Wesely and Senator Nelson.

SENATOR LAMB: Call the question right after I speak. Mr. President, and members, I rise one more time to try to outline my reasons for supporting this amendment, supporting the amended LB 1141, and opposing LB 239 (sic). At the...I appeared before the Education Committee in regard to LR 239 when it was heard by that committee and that is not a usual performance for me because I don't appear before very many committees in regard to bills which are not my own bills. But I feel very strongly about this issue and I feel that we should not...we should not divide up our postsecondary educational institutions into seven separate fiefdoms. I believe that that would be a real mistake. I have always thought we, in Nebraska, were lucky that we did not have two universities, such as Kansas has and Iowa has, because...mainly because we couldn't afford them and I don't think those two states can probably afford them even though they are bigger than Nebraska. And if we do divide up the postsecondary educational institutions, we will have a UNL and a UNO, you know, and I think these are going to be competing universities and that should not happen in this state. I think UNO, UNL, and the med college should all stay as part of the University of Nebraska. Also, in my testimony before the Education Committee, I indicated that I thought if the Postsecondary Coordinating Commission was strengthened, it would do the same thing. I will have to admit that at that time I did not realize it would take a constitutional amendment to do that, but since that has been pointed out, I stand fast in that belief. I stand fast in the belief that a greater, greater coordination should take place by having a strengthened coordinating commission and that is what this amendment does and that is what 1141 would do without all the disruptive things that would happen under LR 239. So I guess I would just again