

April 2, 1991

LB 400

SENATOR HABERMAN: They do receive 600,000...the University of Nebraska medical college received \$600,000 last year in federal grants. They could have used part of that for this program, however, they chose not to.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, thank you. I think I'll refrain from discussing anymore right now. But I do understand the amendment better. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Warner, did you wish to discuss your amendment further? Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, some times I think I should just sit down and keep quiet. But we had this bill in Education Committee. And I certainly see the merit of Senator Haberman's bill and so on, and not that they couldn't afford to do it. But what I questioned is whether we really had the right to mandate upon them that they shall provide the scholarships. So I guess in that manner I support Senator Warner's amendment, not that I disagree in the least that Senator Haberman...with Senator Haberman that we need to maybe put a little more teeth in and encouraging them to support some positions for training, and that it probably wouldn't hurt them out of their fund. But I question whether or not we even have the authority to tell them that they had to do this, to spend this money. That was my question. Maybe Senator Haberman can answer, or maybe he doesn't want to answer. That was my question, I'm not even sure that we have the authority to do this. And we heard this bill in the Education Committee.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I'll answer Senator Nelson's question. It says that it is the intent of the Legislature that no General Funds shall be expended for the medical education scholarship program. The medical center shall seek private sources of financing, or federal funding for scholarships authorized in this section. Senator Nelson, we do have, we do have the authority to direct the University of Nebraska medical college to do what's in the amendment to LB 400.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you, Senator Haberman.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Warner.