

April 16, 1991

LB 701

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Is there discussion on the committee amendments? Seeing no discussion, Senator Withem, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I'm asking for a very strong no vote on the committee amendments, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. We will now vote on the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 1 aye, 16 nays, Mr. President, on committee amendments.

SPEAKER BAACK: The committee amendments are not adopted. Senator Rasmussen, to open on LB 701.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Mr. Chairman, you have to tell me what the procedure is here. I have amendments.

SPEAKER BAACK: Yes, I understand...

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Okay, so...

SPEAKER BAACK: ...that you wish to open, first,...

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Okay.

SPEAKER BAACK: ...and you may open on the bill, and then we will go to your amendments.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Okay, that's good, that's right. That's what you asked me. Okay, I'm sorry. What I'd like to do is tell you just a little bit more about what the bill is all about, so you understand what the amendment is going to do. It's important to understand a little bit about the history of services for children with disabilities in the State of Nebraska. In 1978 we passed a state mandate that said that all children, between point of diagnosis, and age 21, would receive educational services through the school system. Point of diagnosis could mean from birth on. And so we have had, for many years, educational services for those children. In 1986 the federal government passed a law that was known as Public Law 99-457, and this law is saying that all states in the Union will provide services, from preschool to 21, and that they also provide strong incentives for states to do services for birth to