

September 30, 1992 LB 1

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Mr. Speaker, I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 1.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 1. All those in favor say aye. Opposed no. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Ashford. Senator Ashford's amendment is on page 83 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. This amendment I intend to withdraw, but what it does do is it reflects a discussion that we had in the Appropriations Committee about the university budget and the need to take a look at the research budget at the University of Nebraska, which totals about 36 to \$37 million. When we are cutting back on classroom instructors at the uni...throughout the university system, it seems to me that it becomes necessary that we take a hard look at the reallocation of dollars within the system to make certain that we are providing sufficient number of instructors at all of the major universities, UNL UNK and UNL (sic). And I know there is a crisis throughout the system. This amendment would require that the university take the \$4.2 million cut from the research dollars. In fact, the research dollars at now 36 million, almost 37 million out of General Fund dollars are greater than the total budget at UNO for all of its educational services, and at UNK, certainly, which is less than UNO's budget. It's a crisis situation at these campuses. It primarily should be addressed by the Board of Regents. Hopefully, between now and January the Board of Regents will adequately discuss this problem and come up with a plan. I think one of the frustrating things that I have had, and I know other members of the Appropriations Committee have had, is just the inability of the university to come up with a working plan to deal with this classroom crisis. For at least the four years I have been on the committee, we have yet to see any plan that really deals with the problem. I realize that, and I've been told over and over again, both legally and administratively, that the Board of Regents is the power in this area, and that they have the authority, they have the ability to