

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 1, 1999 LB 243

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Madam President, members. I guess I am going to speak on the Beutler amendment and the bill at the same time. I oppose the Beutler amendment and the reason for that is I believe that we should support the guard units here in Nebraska, and I think one thing that you need to look at, and I think Senator Janssen kind of stressed this, is the dollar amounts. We're looking at a million dollars here that's going into the guard, but we're not losing this million dollars. I'm sure later on in this session we're going to be looking at money that's going to be funded into the universities and into our other colleges throughout Nebraska. Maybe we could cut those by a million dollars because this is where this revenue is going to be going. These young people that are going to be joining the guard are going to be going to the colleges in Nebraska. It is not going to be used out of state. It's going to be used right here. We're also, I think, going to be giving some raises and stuff in some high places later on in this legislator (sic) and I think that that should be looked at. These are young people that are willing to go out here and work for the state of Nebraska, along with serve the military in foreign countries, if called upon, and I can tell you from experience, I've worked with the guard in a lot of different disaster situations, floods, tornados. The latest one was the snow last year, ice storms across Nebraska. These people do a lot for the state of Nebraska and I guess I just want to stand and oppose the Beutler amendment and support the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schmitt. Senator...any further discussion on the Beutler amendment? Senator Beutler, there are no further lights on your amendment. Would you like to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature, just a suggestion to you to take a slower approach on this. A reminder, again, that the total amount of A bills that we can have on Final Reading, unless you intend to either spend more money or do something radically different, is a couple million dollars, and this bill directs half of that. When we get down to Final Reading, if we advance all of these bills, a whole number of bills over to Final Reading that we know we cannot possibly pass, given the fiscal restraint, then we're going to be faced with some hard decisions, and we may, at that point in