

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 480

Health and Human Services, and there are a number of others that I don't have down here. I would submit to you that this bill now is unneeded in the sense that Senator Schimek has it. We have now over 300 and some freestanding commissions, and to add one more to duplicate services that are presently taking place, I think, this is not the time, and we don't have the money. And I would suggest that this bill, number one, is unneeded, but my amendment makes it a little bit better. However, to enable this body to address this issue now on the basis that it is not a good bill, because it is an unneeded bill and because it bears a price tag that we can't afford, I would like to see the debate go on the bill alone. And on that basis, Senator Coordsen and members of the body, I ask that this amendment be pulled and, if we have to, we can replace it later. Thank you very much.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you. Before we proceed to the list of speakers on the Tyson amendment, I would like to announce that Senator Mark Quandahl has as his guests Lois and Adam Dietsch, from Seward. They're seated under the south balcony. Would you please rise and let us welcome you to the Chamber this morning. Senator Tyson, the Clerk understood that you were pulling your amendment?

SENATOR TYSON: That's what I understood, too, Senator.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, I'm glad we all understand the same thing then. (Laughter) The amendment is withdrawn. And to speak to LB 480, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I had my light on, of course, to respond to the Tyson amendment and will go ahead and use my time to speak a little bit more about the bill. Let me tell you that this bill has generated a lot of interest over the past year that I've been working on it. And we worked very hard this summer with staff at the UNMC, with women docs up in Omaha, with all kinds of constituency groups to model a piece of legislation that would be acceptable to this body. Now I have to tell you that originally we thought about creating a women's health office. And we discarded that, knowing that that probably wouldn't sell politically, that it would be...it would be viewed in a negative kind of way. But I would like to tell you that there are eight