

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

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Beutler says the idea should be looked at with an open mind, but you ought to fill in some of the details and mechanics, such as allowing a mix of city, county, and private contributions to come up with the 10 percent, and all these other provisos, exceptions, whereases, therefore, ex post factos, and hereinafters. That's for Senator Brashear. He's not here right now. By the time you get through doing all of that, haven't you demonstrated the folly of putting something like this in the constitution? This whole idea should not be there. The question that I think we ought to consider: Is a dead institution worth all of this that we're doing, let alone pouring money into it? We're taking all of this time with an institution that is not even viable. It cannot exist. So we're taking all of this time--which, by the way, I don't mind doing. I will join you. We're into my territory now. This is the fourth time I've turned over the hourglass. And I said at least eight times. So I'm in no ways tired, nor discouraged, nor frustrated, because when I saw LR 209CA on the agenda, I knew what was going to happen. Because with all of the surface discussions that we're having, everybody knows inside that this is not a good idea. It should not be done. We should not put something like this into the constitution. But if you want to take all of this time, at what point, if Senator Bourne's amendment should be adopted, are you going to start amending it to put in all the provisions that Senator Beutler mentioned? He's trying to protect Lincoln, which I can understand. And as I whisked past him on my way to get something out of the little printer, I told him that you Lincoln representatives sure have a hard job on your hands. Lincoln cracks a wicked whip over the representatives in this legislative body. They would not do on any other issue what they're doing here. Senator Landis would not give such weak arguments. I wish he was here, because here's what I want to say about those words we were talking about. He mentioned that the words that he was talking about and that I made reference to are not defined in the constitution. The point I made--and he didn't listen to me any better than he listened to his constitutional law professor when he was in law school all those years ago--when Nebraska's constitution incorporated those words, they already had definitions. You didn't have to put them in the constitution because they were defined in the constitutional law, in the body