

January 23, 1975

SENATOR KENNEDY: As Chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee I'd like to state that we did hear the bill and I certainly would support the emergency clause, even though the amendment is not in there. I feel that Senator Moylan had good backing at the hearing. As chairman of that committee I would certainly support and say that we should add the emergency clause and that LB 88 should be passed on with the emergency clause.

PRESIDENT: The question is then, shall the bill be amended by adding the emergency clause. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 39 ayes, no nays, 10 not voting.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Moylan.

SENATOR MOYLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would ask to introduce to LB 88 by several members of different organizations of the blind people of Nebraska. The purpose of the bill is to create and an advisory committee to the Department of Public Institutions for the purpose of coordinating and giving fair representation to organizations of the visually impaired persons. To provide for the membership of that committee and prescribe the duties of such an advisory committee. As Senator Kennedy just stated, I had great support in the committee hearing yesterday. There was no opposition to the bill. The bill embodies the changes which the organizations believe would be fruitful for the visually handicapped of the state and would constitute a satisfactory framework for cooperation between the Division of Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired and the voluntary associations of the blind. The Omaha Association of the Blind, the National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska, the Nebraska Association of Workers for the Blind, and the Lincoln Braille Club were represented at the meeting. I have reason to believe that those, who represented their respective organizations, had discussed LB 88 with their membership and there is general support among the blind and the visually impaired of Nebraska. With that explanation, I would ask that LB 88 be advanced to E & F for initial.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, question of Senator Moylan and then I think I'd like to have a question of the Speaker or the chairman of the Public Works -- Health Committee. Senator Moylan, on your bill on the committee, it's appointed by the Governor, is it -- I don't see anything in it where it's subject to legislative approval. Did you talk about this? Is this committee going to be non-important, so to say? I might have missed it and I tried to read through it pretty fast.

SENATOR MOYLAN: Senator Barnett, I do not believe it provides, as far as I remember reading the bill or discussing it, that asks for any confirmation from this body.

SENATOR BARNETT: OK.

SENATOR MOYLAN: However, it is my understanding that these advisory committees, is what they are to the Governor, are not generally necessary to be sanctioned by the Legislative body.