

February 20, 1975

SENATOR MARVEL: That's all I want to say now, except this, I have before me and Senator Lewis and Clark has it, and I don't know who else had it, the formula that's devised for the payment of these payments. As I understand the equivalent of the payments, Senator Lewis I want to make one more statement and see whether you agree with it or not. The payments that you are proposing in the bill would amount to an annual outpay of \$20 million in this particular area. This includes about seven categories. Is that substantially correct?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That is substantially incorrect. This bill provides for \$2 million only. This bill is deceased, maybe now, but even if you pass it, it dies in 4 weeks. It appropriates \$2 million out of existing funds. That's all it does. What we have to do after we get the payments out is we have to address some of the serious questions that you have legitimately raised, Senator Marvel, that the funding mechanism is not correct. The approach is not correct. It has been handled so badly that I have thought as an alternative to inviting my 11 year old daughter down to do the job, which she could have done much better than has been done. The problem, I'm saying to you and I want you to hear me, I'm saying to you that the program is dying out there. There is no money and it's going to die and it's going to continue to die until we translate the money, in an orderly fashion as we said we would translate it. We've had people that have built up their staffs. They got people on hand, their doing their job. The Millard school district borrowed money the last time to take care of a payment they didn't get. Other school districts have. These people are excited in terms of an orderly transition of state money for a state commitment to a mandated program. My problem was, and my sole reason for addressing this question is the fact that the end purpose that I know each of you voted for in good conscience, and that was to provide special education. That is not being done. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, and I say this to all of the Legislature, I myself am getting tired of having someone merely accuse someone else of doing something incorrectly all the time for mainly the purpose of causing descent. This has been ridiculous in this particular instance. We're all going to try to work together to work this out, or as Senator . . . what's your name . . . Senator Lewis has said here we've gotta work this out, or we've gotta get rid of it. I'm in favor of working it out. Now here is a problem, and one of the big problems has to do with rules and regulations. I'm sure in LB 403 it called for rules and regulations to be made. Now I know that some rules and regulations were made. I don't know what they were. It occurred prior to the time that we were in the business. But those rules and regulations were made by the Department of Education. Right or wrong, I don't know. I don't know what they contained. They were sent over to the Attorney General for his approval. His approval only goes so far as to approve them as to the law, and as to form, which he did after a considerable length of time. If I'm correct or if I understand correctly, they were then sent to the Governor of the State of Nebraska along about last August