

April 24, 1975

so you got the wrong guy again, and another thing, I have got my name on it, which isn't a signature I realize that but it does show that it is owned by me and your argument is very weak. Now, I have stood here and listened to Senator Richard Lewis say something about it isn't going to effect paid. Senator Kennedy saying it isn't going to effect paid. I don't...evidently I missed that part of the bill. Right now in the state of Nebraska, the paid fire departments are taking the same emergency medical training program that the volunteers are from the same agency and from the same instructors, which is in the technical school area. Now, this, I would like to tell Senator Richard Lewis that there is definitely more than two paid fire departments in the state of Nebraska and I am surprised that he doesn't know in his own area of McCook that they have paid people on their staff from the fire department. Some of the communities have a partially paid and partially volunteer. They have combined, but the first class cities of Nebraska, I believe, and I could stand corrected, which is about 26 cities, I think they all have paid volunteer...or paid firemen and volunteer firemen in a lot of them. Now this affects all of them. Subsection...as I see on Section 2 on Page 2, it says ambulance or rescue service units shall mean any privately or publicly owned motor vehicle. Now if that isn't a fire departments vehicle, whether it is the paid rescue squad in Omaha or Grand Island or Scottsbluff or wherever they might have one, and I guess I missed something in the bill. The big complaint that I had, and Senator Kennedy said it was wrong, was that the volunteers, and I have said in this telegram that they received that they supported the bill but the amendment to keep the training program in the technical area was what they were wanting instead of fragmenting it and putting it under the Department of Health. Now you people in the volunteers areas, if you want your volunteer firemen to be trained by many different groups of trainers, then go ahead and support the bill the way it is. If you would like to keep it in one area where a training instructor could come out to your area and teach you heavy rescue, EMT rescue, and at the same day, maybe give some pump instruction, then you could turn around and adopt the amendment and keep it all under the technical area. Now if you don't want to do that, it isn't going to effect Lincoln because we have got instructors on all of them and we will use the instructors from the Tech college to teach Lincoln. I am saying that Senator Kennedy was in error when he said that the volunteers from all over the state of Nebraska supported this issue because they don't and it is very obvious because they do not want to fragment the training. They are not asking, and I can't see what it would affect one iota to keep it under the technical area unless somebody has something against the Tech Boards. Now maybe that might be in the back of some people's minds. I guess I don't know that problem, if there is one. So I would...I think I would have to support bringing it back to kill it, if they can't put the amendment on it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body, a year ago at this time, the halls were crowded with volunteer