

May 6, 1975

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 605. Read title. There are a series of amendments on the bill, Mr. President. None by the committee.

PRESIDENT: We'll recognize Senator Marvel first to explain the bill, then we will take up the amendments. Chair recognizes Senator Marvel.

SENATOR MARVEL: There are three difficult appropriations bills. They're all to come yet, including this one, 605. I'd alert you to two or three areas, then we'll get into them in whatever detail you want. We're in the process, in this state, in developing a community mental retardation program and a community mental health program. Regardless as to what the administrators may say, this is not full blown at the moment, therefore, it's extremely difficult to try to present up-to-date information. One reason it's extremely difficult is that the various regions involved do not have up-to-date figures in many cases. The second bill that is going to cause some problems has to do with higher education. The third bill has to do with new capital construction. I'd like to go through this just briefly, Mr. President, if I could.

There's a small budget on the Board of Pardons. There's a small budget on the Board of Parole. There is a budget on the Department of Health, starting on page 4, which is basically a continuation, except that in the community health services, on page 5, we add three people in a water quality area. On page 6, we are appropriating \$144,000 state aid for renal disease treatment. We're adding people to help the medical care administration. The Department of Labor budget, starts on page 7, is basically a continuation budget as per their request. The Department of Public Institutions starts on page 9. We've got right underneath that starting on about line 8 on down, once again asking them for a five year plan which includes a specific one year plan in some of the areas that I've been talking about. On the top of page 10 we're talking about a detailed report from the Nebraska Veterans Home. We have added people, on page 11, to the central office in the area of Audit and Control. Otherwise, the administrative part is a continuation. You will find, on page 12, language, and I would call this to your attention because this is where you have received some correspondence. We have some additional figures starting on line 12, page, there is included in the amount shown the following general funds for the community mental health regions. We're talking here about general fund money. We're not talking about either federal money or money that comes from the counties. So I assume we want to go back and discuss that later. In . . . we've got a Division of Alcoholism. There's a bill that we're hopefully holding over till next session, 552, which would combine alcoholism and drug control. At the bottom of page 12 and the top of page 13 there's a \$10 million program, almost \$11 million, for Beatrice State Home which at the moment has 1,070 residents which is a far cry from the 2200 they had not too long ago. The Office