

January 14, 1976

SENATOR SCHMIT: Then, in order to clarify the situation Senator, I would like to say this. I know that in visiting with some of the individuals with the Department of Agriculture that there have been some times in the past when they found it more economical and more beneficial to purchase pick-up trucks for their personnel for two reasons. The first one of course, is that they serve a functional purpose and secondly their resale value, believe it or not, can be better than the resale value of an automobile. I know that in visiting with some of these people that they have complained to me that their operation is not as efficient by virtue of the fact that they have to operate within the confines of the Transportation Services Bureau. I would suspect that that is what the committee had in mind when they allowed some flexibility to the University of Nebraska. I concur with you about the necessity of saving energy, but I think that we should not sacrifice everything on the altar of energy. There are some other economies to be gained and we should recognize that and act accordingly and therefore I support Senator Johnson's bill and oppose the kill motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: I have a question of Senator Johnson, if he will yield please. Senator Johnson, as the law reads right now the University of Nebraska is supposed to purchase its vehicles from the Transportation Service Bureau, is that correct?

SENATOR JOHNSON: They handle all of the purchasing themselves. For their department. They have worked out an agreement with the Department of Administrative Services.

SENATOR DWORAK: They have worked out an agreement that was....

SENATOR JOHNSON: They worked out an agreement and I can show you a copy of the agreement, if you care to see it.

SENATOR DWORAK: Was this agreement not outside the perimeters of existing law? Is that why we are now being asked to change the law? Have they in effect...are they doing something that is illegal right now? Is that why you are asking to change the law to make a law to conform with this agreement that they have worked out?

SENATOR JOHNSON: There has been no disagreement, but there has been this brought up by the auditor and so it was mutually agreed that perhaps we should clarify this and so it is pretty much a housekeeping bill. The University is operating on this basis right now, and actually the original plan for a pool was installed some 15 years ago, was copied by the state itself when they did pass this law in 69.

SENATOR DWORAK: So we have a law that was passed in 69 that precludes the University from doing what they are doing right now, so you want to change the law so that the