

March 12, 1976

SENATOR FITZGERALD: The Omaha school district will not do it sir. It is not the law in Omaha.

SENATOR KENNEDY: We had a busing bill in for the Omaha school district.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: I think that it was defeated Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: So, you are coming in the back door then too....

SENATOR FITZGERALD: No, this is not...this is just for certain schools here, this is not...this is not going to be all over.

SENATOR KENNEDY: The only difference is, or probably the difference is that we don't have to buy the bus, is that it? Is that the difference?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: They won't bus up to the 7th grade. Then the junior highs they will not bus into the 9th grade. This is it.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I sure don't understand it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of this legislature. I whole heartedly support Senator Fitzgerald and his bill. Last year it was proved that the Omaha school board couldn't handle their business. People in Omaha couldn't handle their business and we can handle their business. They are apparently making a wrong decision, so we will make the right decision. Lets pass the bill and get it going.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Senator Fitzgerald please. Do the Omaha public schools prevented from transporting these youngsters if they want too, or is it mandatory that they do not?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mandatory, the state statutes says up to the 8th grade.

SENATOR DICKINSON: You are missing my question. Maybe I am not stating it right. They are not forced to beyond 8th grade, but they can if they want too, is this correct?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: After four miles in junior high they will buss the 7th and 8th graders. The 9th graders they will not bus.

SENATOR DICKINSON: But they can if they want too, is this correct?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: No, the school board in Omaha says that it is against the state statutes. They will not bus the 9th graders in the same school.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Thank you.