

April 21, 1983

LB 142

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Madam President and colleagues, I would just like to rise briefly to remind you of the remarks made earlier by Senator Vard Johnson and Senator Cullan because quite a bit has elapsed now since we...or quite a bit has happened since were last on this bill, and to remind you of two basic principles that I think both of them spoke to very well. First of all, chiropractic science was developed towards the end of the last century and the beginning of this century. It is not scientifically based. The practice itself grew up at a time when medical science itself was in its infant stages. Now my feeling about this bill and my position on this bill is very simple. I think if people in the State of Nebraska have medical problems, they should be directed to and treated by people that have the training and the experience to deal with those medical problems. Chiropractors are not physicians. They have not been to medical school and they do not have the talent or the ability or the skills to deal with what are basically medical problems. I think that by expanding their scope of practice in any way, in my opinion, encourages people to seek medical aid from chiropractors who simply are not qualified to do it. They are not qualified to diagnose. They are not qualified to read x-rays, in my opinion. They are not qualified to take blood tests or understand what the results of the blood tests are, and I would remind you they originally asked for that authority from this body. I guess my response to the chiropractors is if they want to practice medicine, if they want their practice expanded and if they want to be able to treat medical problems, they should go to medical school and be trained accordingly. So I would ask you to vote against this bill for these reasons and the others that the opponents have expressed today. Thank you.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Question.

SENATOR MARSH: Are there five hands? I do see five hands. You will vote on ceasing debate. The issue before the House is ceasing debate. Senator Marsh voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Marsh voting aye.

SENATOR MARSH: Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator DeCamp.