

January 31, 1984

LB 14

underemployed, unemployed, underutilized and unutilized and a great tragedy continues to befall a mighty nation. If we tap our unused resources and our underutilized resources, whether they be human resources or natural resources, we have the ability to continue to prosper and to be the greatest nation on the face of the world. On the other hand, if we do not promote those unutilized and underutilized resources we will surely falter and fail. To cap Senator Kilgarin's child care amendment at \$20,000 per family is to cap it far too low. I ask you to reject Senator Von Minden's amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Newell is next but, Senator Newell, may I introduce a guest of mine under the south balcony, Mr. Mike Gregoryk, who is Vice-President of Finance at Nebraska Western College. Would you welcome him to the Legislature, please. Senator Newell, did you wish to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we started out with LB 14 and the original bill had a fiscal note of \$2.5 million. The original intent of the bill was to ameliorate the effects of a federal change. Heretofore when the issue was based on an exemption it affected our tax law but when the federal government changed it to be a credit it affected our tax law by excluding our exemption. Now the federal government changed it to be a credit for very simple reasons. It recognized ever so rationally that low income people needed additional help or more help than high income people and that is what the credit in effect does. The deduction helped people with high incomes. The credit helps people with low incomes. And so what we are trying to do here is very simply say, we want to also recognize that the loss was greater to those with low incomes and so the issue is really centered around, what is a high income, what is a low income. Senator Beutler offered an amendment. The Beutler amendment says we call anybody with an income of \$25,000 or more high income people and anybody below that low income people and now we have Senator Von Minden's amendment which says, the real figure