

February 23, 1984

LB 290, 480, 481, 696, 703, 808, 837
911, 947, 1028, 700

balcony. They are coming in now. They are 98 students from Papillion La Vista High School with Tom Berve along as leader. We welcome you all to the Legislature. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LB 290, 837, 947, 480, 481, 808, 703, 696, 911, and 1028. The motion before us is the Beutler amendment to LB 700 and next in speaking order is Senator Hefner. I also have Senators Newell and Labedz on deck for speaking. Senator Newell. Senator Higgins. Well, Senator Newell is before you. I just thought if he were not here, we would take you up. Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the Beutler amendment, and I rise to oppose the Beutler amendment for the same reasons with which I rose to oppose an earlier amendment which took any representation of the Women's Commission off the bill. I think we have to keep a perspective, and I appreciated Senator Beutler's arguments and I thought they were interesting, but I have to respectfully disagree with the good Senator from Lincoln. Senator Beutler, to answer your first and primary question, whether or not this Legislature will authorize additional pay increases when we get to and if it is determined that we are going to owe substantial portions of money whether it will be in addition to apart from, I think is an interesting argument. And for me to sit here and make promises that I am going to support every appropriations proposal that comes across this floor would be ludicrous and be wrong on my part and be wrong on the part of any other members of this body, because each and every year we have to analyze, (a), whether we have the money, whether we are willing to appropriate the money and see whether or not it is a wise utilization of those dollars within the given context of that year or what we see in the reasonable future. So I think that, Senator Beutler, that your arguments, you know, are fear that we are not going to give everybody the amount of money that you determined would be reasonable is a difficult one for us to sit and talk about at this point in time. But my argument in the main is simply this, if there is discrimination, we are better off now knowing about it, better off now planning for it and