

March 5, 1984

LB 970

particular motion and I can understand the concerns that Senator Warner raised. But let me point out to you that first of all, and I think Senator Warner agrees to this, would have to agree that role and mission is nothing sacred about it, it is nothing that this body has probably not looked at a little bit before and we have already started to make a dent in it in this session of the Legislature, as a matter of fact, when we are in the process of advancing a bill to grant to the Tech School at North Omaha the ability to have an academic transfer program. So things do change and as things change we need to be cognizant of that. Now the problem as far as duplication, coordination, cooperation and all those nice wonderful words are concerned, I have attempted to visit with the parties involved to try to bring that about, as I know Senator Warner and others have, but the simple fact of the matter is that it hasn't happened. Now it is not all their fault. Part of the fault we have to share as well because we have to recognize it costs more money to send professors to Kearney or Chadron or wherever than it does to keep them here at the Lincoln campus. We have to recognize it costs more money to make that access available. As far as the quality of the program is concerned, there are some differences for those institutions who are involved with research in a number of other areas that I don't believe we are contemplating with the passage of 970. We are not contemplating getting into the area of doctorates and researches and so forth. But the question of access, the question of those folks out in the greater area of the State of Nebraska having an ability to be able to continue at their job and still move up in their profession, I think is one that this Legislature should take a long hard look at. Now, admittedly, the ability for the University to go out and provide this cooperative program is there, but as I say it hasn't happened. Well, if it hasn't happened, then...and we can't talk them into providing it more, then the way to do it is to try to expand and let somebody else try to give that service as well. Now that doesn't close the door on cooperation. The amendment we just got through adopting to this bill doesn't close that door, it expands it. It seems to me that if we adopt 970 in its present form, we are going to encourage more cooperation and I am sure there are those folks who say, no, the state colleges

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