

March 14, 1984

LB 880

this state, trying to reform our state health policy and yet we are not willing in our own back yard to do what ought to be done across the State of Nebraska. Now I have been, I think, more than reasonable with employee groups over the years. I have supported salary increases for state employees. I have done everything I can to help them. I'm not an enemy of state employees. And so when you hear me saying that the state employees are getting an awfully good break even with the amendments I am proposing, I think you know I am telling you the truth. I'm not trying to hurt the state employees. I am trying to help our state health insurance policy to reflect what ought to be...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Half a minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...the policy across the state. How much more time?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Half a minute.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I'm asking you please to consider this. It will save the state money. It will help the state employees save money and right now we are in a budget fix that we need to look at places where we can cut back and this is one area that we can cut back and do the right thing at the same time and that money is needed for other projects that are more worthy than this. I ask you to support...to oppose the committee amendments and then I will ask you to support an amendment to cut out the dental coverage possibility from the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas, but before you speak, Senator Pappas, I would like to introduce some guests of yours under the north balcony, Mr. Bob Gelsthrope, North Platte, pastor of the North Platte Baptist Church, Mr. James Mueller, North Platte, Chief Deputy County Attorney, so would you please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you. Senator Pappas. Excuse me, Senator Pappas, (gavel) let's hold our conversation down so we can hear Senator Pappas, please. Thank you.

SENATOR PAPPAS: They are not too polite to freshmen