

March 26, 1984

LB 112

difficult to stand up here and oppose this. But, remember, this is establishing another 14 member board, another bureaucracy. Hundred thousand dollars, how far will that go particularly when probably the class of woman who needs this the most does not fit under those federal income guidelines but is above it and yet at that point where insurance is a hardship to provide?

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: I regretfully oppose the setup that is laid out in LB 112. I don't think it is going to address this problem and I can not support it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, you may close but may I introduce guests of Senator Wagner. I believe they are in the north balcony. They are 47 eighth grade students from Centura Public School in Cairo, Nebraska. Donna Eriksen, Wayne Lauritsen are their teachers. Would you please stand and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you. Senator Vard Johnson, would you like to close on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, this really is dinky bill. You know it is one of these little things that some member puts together because he thinks it is an important thing to do and he gets on the floor and he tries to move it through and it doesn't cost but a \$120,000 but I'll tell you, if you pass this bill and you pay out your \$120,000 and if this bill impacted one child, one child in one year's time so that one child was not in a neonatal intensive care unit in one of the hospitals in our state, it would save you \$120,000. It would be saved, one child, because the cost of keeping an infant in an intensive care neonatal birth unit in Nebraska is approximately \$120,000. Now I passed out a packet of material which I had my legislative staff prepare, oh, a couple of weeks ago on LB 112, and in that packet you will have set out the amount of money the state spends, it spends today on remediation, on remediation of infants with some type of congenital anomaly. That is in excess of a hundred million dollars that we spend in special education, in

10624