

April 9, 1984

LB 561

SENATOR CLARK: That was five years ago.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was that correct?

SENATOR CLARK: That was correct at that time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature...

SENATOR KAHLE: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...an agreement being made ought to be kept. The optometrists knew when they made that promise there was no intention to keep it. If they were honorable people, they would keep that agreement, but the Legislature is so often tricked by being told this is as far as we are going. You will notice that when I deal with you, whether it is on the death penalty or divestment from South Africa, I will acknowledge that I am getting all that I can this year but I will be back, that if I am trying to get consideration for the athletes as far as protection of scholarships, or whatever, this is what I can get but I will be back. The optometrists made a categorical statement that all they were seeking was the authorization to use those drops. Now they want to go a step further and it will continue. If you all feel that because of the difficulty of obtaining adequate medical treatment for the eye you ought to allow less qualified people to give less adequate service, you will vote for this bill. If you think the public has a right to be protected, you should vote against it. I was against it the other day. I am against it now and I hope the only thing we will look at is the welfare of the public and vote against this reconsideration motion.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Clark. Senator Chronister.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Mr. President and members, with all due respect to Senator Chambers, I have been operated on by a barber. Granted he didn't have much to work with. But I do support the reconsideration and passage of 561. And I ask you, please don't succumb to the horror stories that have been advanced on this floor. Optometrists are qualified. A lot has happened in the last five years in this respect and