

January 15, 1973

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion of Senator Carpenter's motion? Will the clerk read the motion again, please?

CLERK: Read.

SPEAKER: Any further discussion of the motion? All those in favor of the motion vote aye, all those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? The clerk will record the votes.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: The motion carries.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a communication which I received from the Internal Revenue Service which was in response to a letter I had written them. Read.

SPEAKER: Thank you. Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, may I suggest that the clerk have that copied and delivered to each member of the Legislature. or is it going to be--

SPEAKER: It will be in the Journal. Senator Keyes, did you wish to be recognized? Thank you. Are there other motions on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President. Read.

SPEAKER: Senator Proud in the chamber. Very good. We have your motion on ETV coverage before the body.

SENATOR PROUD: Mr. President and members, I feel that our action during the Legislative Council in requiring the TV cameras to be here, as I recall, every day of the week and to give a half hour presentation to the public for a half hour every day, if that is what we did adopt was a trifle precipitous on our part. I personally feel that the two days a week the way we had it last year is fairly satisfactory. The lights are a problem, the cost is a problem, and we are put in the position of editing our own news, if not directly, indirectly. In other words what I am saying is that the Legislature pays the people who operate ETV. This is taxpayers money and it seems natural to me that the---ETV is never going to put this body in a bad light. Now I don't think we should be put in a bad light but since we are in effect editing our own news, naturally we want the Legislature put in as good light as possible. This is a, I guess you would call it "conflict of interest" situation. The ETV since they are employees of the state of Nebraska naturally have a problem in being objective. Nevertheless, I would not eliminate them from this floor. I believe that the people of this state are entitled to know what is going on here. At the same time, the news media in general, the commercial television, the newspapers, and the radio, do do a pretty good job of keeping the people of Nebraska advised and I don't believe that ETV should be in competition with commercial television to an unreasonable extent. Now I don't know how the body feels about this. Everybody can speak his own piece on it. It is not a matter of life and death, but in my judgment two days a week is ample TV coverage to keep the public informed plus commercial news media.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion of the Proud motion?

SENATOR PROUD: Mr. President, as you recall this was Senator Carpenter's motion that we have this every day of the week and I think he should be heard. If he is---I see him coming in now.

SPEAKER: I am sure he will be. The chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.