

that more and more with the emphasis being on post secondary education including our tech and community college schools, of course, that there is an emphasis for youngsters wanting to complete their high school in maybe 3½ and in some cases 3 years, if they so desire. But I would emphasize, especially in the urban area, the summer months are problems not only for the parent, for the youngsters themselves. You have an increased burden placed upon your recreation facilities in the city and as I said earlier that there just simply are not enough jobs and the teenagers want to be busy. They don't want to be just lounging around the house watching television, or playing baseball. They want something to do. So, I would urge the body to consider this fact and, again, Senator Barnett's bill is permissive. It does not require any school district to do anything, but if the district so desires and the parents and the students would so desire, it would give them the opportunity. I am aware of some districts in other states that have gone to this method and I think it is the coming thing and I think this body owes it to the people of Nebraska in 1973 to allow them to have the same opportunity.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Keyes, then Senator Nore, then Senator Syas.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President, I certainly support this and I'd like to ask Senator Barnett a question. Senator Snyder alluded to it but I would rather have Senator Barnett clear me on it. Senator Barnett, we have to go to school 180 days, isn't it.

SENATOR BARNETT: 175, I understand.

SENATOR KEYES: 175. Would it be possible under this bill, if it is fully implemented and put into affect, for a child to attend school all four quarters for the twelve years of school, obtain the education in say eleven years or ten years and be graduated and out.

SENATOR BARNETT: This would be up to the district, but if they would adopt a year around operation from kindergarten through the twelfth grade, they could definitely do it if the parents and the children chooses.

SENATOR KEYES: Well, don't you think we should put a stop to this. We should say that no child could succeed himself more than five terms without taking a term off because we would come to the point where children will be graduating much, much sooner than they should. We would not accomplish what we are wanting to accomplish and that is make about a 25% increase in the availability of the school simply by letting some children go to school continuously. I think this is, probably, one of the faults of the bill and I presume that it might ought to be discussed. I hadn't thought of amending it, but I would say that this is one thing that we should possibly consider.

SENATOR BARNETT: I wouldn't call it one of the faults of the bill. I would call it, probably, an elimination and maybe on purpose because I think maybe we should leave this up to the parents or the children as to whether they want the children to continue on through school or whether they shouldn't. I can't for the life of me see anybody wanting to send a 8, 9, or 10 year old child through the first six grades or the first eight or nine grades of school. There was talk in all the meetings we had around the state, there was talk that they could possibly do this in the high school. This is the first step, gentlemen, that's all it is. I can tell you right now that it is not the perfect bill and I can tell you that we will probably have to be back a year or two to make corrections as we go. I would like to take a second just to inform the body and Senator Nore, specifically, of some of the people that participated in this meeting we had during the interim. We had people such as Paul Bassler from Papillion, who Senator