

March 1, 1973

Branch of the Nebraska state government taken a position on this?

SPEAKER: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Snyder, the Department of Health is not a code department. It's under the administration. It's under the State Board of Health. The State Board is appointed by the Governor. There is a series of provisions regulating who or what type of background these people have to have for length of office. The Board of Health which is the...has the administrative responsibility for the Department made the request. That's not the Governor's office.

SPEAKER: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, let me state my objection, number 1, to us getting involved in setting individual salaries. I think that this is the most ridiculous thing I have ever seen printed into law where 49 of us are going to sit down here and we're going to decide what we are going to pay the Director of Mental Health. So, I'll tell you what. If that is what you want to do, I'm going to initiate a request from Dr. Rogers of every state employee that makes over \$20,000, and I want you to react to each and every one of those. Why are we separating out this guy? How about the guy that works for the University of Nebraska as an administrative assistant to the President? What do you think he's worth? Make your judgment on that? I...there is no sense, there is no rhyme or reason to this being in statute. We've got a Director of Health. I presume there is a job description. I presume there is qualifications for that job, and if we are going to sit here everytime, every year, it's at this level, next time it's at next level. I've heard everybody moan about the large number of bills that we have in this Legislature, and if you look at this piece of legislation as it was previously drafted, I think you can understand why we have a large number of pieces of legislation. That has no business being in the statutes. It's asinine. It's ridiculous and so I'll say to you, if you want to, if you want to vote on every salary in this state above \$20,000, let's don't separate out the Department of Health. Let's go all the way with it. I'll have that list on your desk later this week of everyone of them.

SPEAKER: There are others asking for the floor here. The chair, however, feels that he must break in. The Easter Seal child has been waiting for some 30 minutes so we will return to the bill as soon as this presentation is made. At this time I would ask Senators Kennedy and More to act as an escort committee for the Easter Seal child and her parents. Senator Hasebroock will handle the presentation. Is Senator Kennedy in the chamber? Will you please escort the Easter Seal child and her parents to the rostrum. Senator Hasebroock.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Fellow Senators, this morning I would like to introduce you to a charming young lady from Columbus. She is Susie Shemek. She is 11 years old. Susie is the 1973 Nebraska Easter Seal child and today she is here with us to help the Easter Seal Society kick off its annual spring fund campaign. Susie knows a lot about Easter Seal Society. She told me that each summer she has attended Easter Seal Camp Kiwanis near Milford. That camp, as you know, is one of the services offered by the Nebraska Easter Seal Society to handicapped children and adults. This will be Susie's third summer at this special camp. Susie lives in Columbus, as I told you, but she only spends her weekends there during the school year. She attends the Dr. J. P. Lord School in Omaha for handicapped children. Susie has cerebral palsy. Her mother, Mrs. Dorothy Shemek, drives in each Friday to take Susie home to her family. During Susie's short reign as 1973 Nebraska Easter Seal child, she has managed to