

March 2, 1973

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Carpenter. Do you have a question of Senator Whitney?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Yes sir.

SPEAKER: Thank you. Senator Whitney, will you yield?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Are we in agreement that this bill is the responsibility solely of your committee and you as chairman?

SENATOR WHITNEY: Yes. I'm not, personally, haven't done a thing on this to circumvent anybody. I've just followed the directions of the Nebraska Legislature in carrying out my responsibility.

SENATOR CARPENTER: But this bill as you introduced it, it's the sole responsibility of only your Committee, yourself as its chairman?

SENATOR WHITNEY: Yes. However, I will say this that the Retirement Committee and the Appropriations Committee had a meeting together and we have visited about this and I think we are going to see when the buttons are pushed up on that Board that a great majority of the Appropriations Committee are in favor of this bill.

SENATOR CARPENTER: This has no part of a Governor's program? It's your Committee's program.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Indirectly, it does have relationship, Senator Carpenter, because the Governor has asked the...his code agencies and other agencies to include this in their budget and they have done so.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I am only trying to establish whose program is it and who has the responsibility or the credit for it.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Well, I suppose the credit has to be given to the Nebraska Legislature and I think the Governor has felt, probably, I can't speak for him but I have the feeling he feels that since the Legislature did give this directive to the Retirement Committee this past year to study and since he knew that the retiring Retirement Committee did approve of this that he felt that it would save time or his fiscal analyst and the Budget Committee to have them put this into the Budget and that is where it is now, in the budgets that are being submitted to the Budget Committee.

SENATOR CARPENTER: \$4,000,000 now in the Governor recommendation.

SENATOR WHITNEY: About an extra \$3,500,000. Now you see about a half million has already been in the (inaudible)

SENATOR CARPENTER: Would you believe as I think you said that because the Governor knew that the Legislature would direct the Retirement Committee to do it. As a matter of courtesy to that Committee and that Resolution, he included it in his Budget, is that what you are saying?

SENATOR WHITNEY: Yes.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Then that answers my question.

SENATOR WHITNEY: It is a matter of courtesy on the Governor's part to try to comply with the intent of the Retirement Committee and the Legislature.

SPEAKER: The motion before us is to introduce the bill as explained by Senator Whitney in the discussion. All those in favor of introducing the bill vote aye. All those opposed vote no. Voting on the motion to introduce the bill. Have you all voted? The clerk will record.