

March 16, 1973

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now, Mr. President, I presume that many times I'm very blunt because that's the kind of a person I am, and I don't want to cover what Senator Marvel, except one thing. If he would go to the Committee Report, you'll find that Senator Nore and Senator Whitney was at the Committee and they didn't even vote. After all, that was the place to protest and I would think that as a matter of practical politics that Senator Whitney if he wanted to amend the bill that

SENATOR WHITNEY: And if the Committee Report doesn't say that, there is something wrong with the Committee Report.

SENATOR CARPENTER: That's all I see and that's all I know. I wasn't there. I wish I was. The report says not voting was Nore and Whitney. That's all I've got to go on.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, proceed.

SENATOR CARPENTER; Now, the other thing is that Senator Whitney knows he has been a part of this group to rewrite LB 311 and that if it is passed and I hope it will be passed will provide the funds and probably take all these things out of the Educational Units. Maybe not immediately but eventually. Now the point I am trying to make, every Senator has one thing and sometimes more of those things that he is particularly interested because a peculiar situation in his city, or his county, district, and I think he ought to receive the consideration in these cases that he would like to have, if it is reasonable. I only pointed out that yesterday and this morning we discussed a bill that was going to appropriate seven hundred thousand dollars, approximately. Senator Whitney or Senator Nore, neither one, objected at all. They may have not known what's in the bill but that's their responsibility. They knew what's in this bill. For whatever the reason might have been and it's good reasons, whatever the reasons are, with this if they are only asking a corrective thing that would cost no more than it probably has in the past in order to make it possible to legally fund that which is already in existence and has been in existence for a long period of time. Now, it would seem to me, and I am not sure about this part, that if the people in Senator Whitney's district want to go to the Service Unit, what keeps them from not going there. There is nothing in the law that I can read. Maybe there is, that says you have to go to the school in Cozad. If they want to pay whatever they have to pay in the area of Cozad, in his area, let them pay it. If they want to give it to him free and they want to go, why shouldn't go. There is nothing says they have to go. So, I think this bill because it's been in law for a long time and there has always been a group of people, not necessarily in this body, who tried to strangle that activity and do away with this. It's done a magnificent job insofar as I'm concerned. Not perfect but nothing is. Inso far as retarded children are concerned, they have done an excellent job and the operation ought to be continued.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Rasmussen, then Senator Whitney. Rasmussen passing. Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, I want the mentally retarded boys and girls in the Cozad area to have a school to go to. I want this to be possible for them as well as every other mentally retarded boy or girl in the state, but I do not want a competitive situation which gives them a monopoly. I want that Sidney, for example, be 100% supported by the state, if we are going to do it for Cozad. I want North Platte 100%

(End of Belt #6)