

April 2, 1973

SPEAKER: Senator Cal Carstens.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I rise this morning to only express a few thoughts of my own, and I do it hesitantly, because of the eloquent oratory that has been given here. In my opinion and I reemphasize that it is my opinion, that I think we are bringing in to the discussion of this bill something that has nothing to do as far as we as state legislators are concerned. I don't believe that we sitting here representing the people out in our districts, should conscientiously vote this as a political move either Republican or Democrat. We need to be thinking for the good of the state of Nebraska, and as far as I'm concerned that's the way my votes going to go and I'm not sure whether I'm going to support the amendment yet, or not and I don't think that we should make a public spectacle of this as a partisan and definite partisan vote of the legislature. I think there is good in what has been done in the past with the Department of Administrative Services and I think that the older members of this legislature has seen the function of this department whether it has been good or whether it has been bad, we have some that have now a proposed change in that department because of their wisdom in their association with it, and in my opinion they're not doing it on a partisan or political basis, but for the good of the state of Nebraska and I would hope that the members of this legislature would look at it in this light, rather than on the political aspect. Thank you sir.

SPEAKER: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. Chairman, members of the legislature, I believe that I will pass at this time, Senator Mahoney is probably chastised me enough for this morning.

SPEAKER: We have on the agenda now, Senator Marvel do you wish to speak again on the issue? Alright, Senator Marvel.

SENATOR MARVEL: First of all I want to complement Senator Carstens on his fine comments which I think does as much to summarize the sincere efforts of those who have brought forth the bill itself and attempted to explain it. Now I would like to use Senator Mahoney as an example for a moment, to try to express my philosophy in regard to this entire bill. I have been privileged to have watched Senator Mahoney effectively work with his constituents in his own district, so that I know that I am safe in saying that he knows more about the wishes and about the needs of his district than any executive, Chief Executive, be he Democratic or Republican, and that to me is the key issue, we are talking about the right of the legislative branch and the legislative branch I may say is under fire all over this country, whether it be in Washington D.C., or in the states, and we are asking that the information which is absolutely necessary for the proper function of the legislative branch be provided. This is adequately provided in legislative bill 452. Now as far as I'm concerned, it's the legislature, because we are closest to the public, who knows more about the needs of the public, simply because this is the way the separation of powers was set up, it is the basic function of this legislative branch and everybody in this room to work on legislation and debate on legislation which eventually sets over all public policy. That is our function, the public policy as a result of our efforts and hopefully the information that we can get, this public policy then is turned over to the executive branch including the Governor to implement, and so to me this is a basic question, it has nothing to do with personalities, it has nothing to do with partisan politics, we have debated this issue whether we are talking about

(End of Belt #7)