

April 9, 1973

(Start Belt #11)

I'm sure that when the gentlemen came and testified and it took a lot of nerve for him, he started spelling out some of the things and that brought it to our attention a little more, and then when we come with an A bill, which was not supposed to be part of it, again I think they were showing that we were out of our class, or trying to prove to us that we were, but I think we can, I think as a body I think we can give our expression in a resolution and we also can consult with the ETV people.

SENATOR STAHLER: Well in closing I would just say I think one of the problems to what degree they really are short program funding I know they have a huge budget, but they claim to be short on program funds and this well could be a legitimate problem with them, but I think this might be addressed other than through a specific legislation.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I'm not sure about the shortage of funds.

PRESIDENT: Well we are still discussing the bill, Senator Marsh is next, then Warner, then Kelly, then Barnett, then Carpenter.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, in Nebraska, we have two times the national average of those persons over 65 years of age, there is a large potential audience for this type of programing however, I would prefer a resolution rather than a legislative bill, to handle the problem.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion on the desk.

CLERK: I move to indefinitely postpone LB 525, signed Senator Snyder.

PRESIDENT: Motion is to indefinitely postpone LB 525, Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Well Mr. President, members of the legislature, I suppose I'll be criticized by some Senior Citizens who would like to see more programing geared to them, but I think there is a very basic point in democracy here in our form of Government, etc., I just cannot support the idea of a State Legislature trying to dictate to an educational television commission what they can or cannot have on the air, I think that it is very dangerous precedent, I hope that the people who would at first oppose what I'm doing would look at it from a fundamental view point, and I just cannot in any way support this or any other type of measure, along these lines. I think that this philosophy has already been expressed by two or three other members, and it certainly is my philosophy, so I would move for the indefinite postponement of 525 on the aforementioned grounds.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, do you want to be heard on the motion to indefinitely postpone?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes, I was going to ask Senator Kennedy a question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kennedy will you yield?

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Kennedy, could you clarify, can the ETV commission presently by statute provide this kind of program, or is the, or is it, the press laws interpreted if they are not legally permitted for this kind of a program, I'm trying to understand is what was the purpose or need of a bill if they can do it now?