

January 2, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We're speaking on the committee amendments now of 569

SENATOR NORE: I would oppose the amendments in the bill. I've had some valid complaints from folks selling advertising and printing in the last ten years or nine years, whereby they went to all the work of making estimates and it was all for naught because the state came in and bid less. And it isn't fair competition. I think you're opening up the barn door and this is..this thing will just be the start of a new ..of a prison industry. Which has always been sort of a sore thing in the state of Nebraska. And in the past I think the..the most of the products that have been produced down there is used by the state. And I think it should stay that way. And when you spend a lot of money making estimates as several companies do, private companies, and then the state comes in and then the prison complex comes in and under bids them just a little bit. They see the bids ahead of time. It just isn't fair competition.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Kelly. We're discussing the committee amendments here to 569.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, a question here to Senator Luedtke. Senator, what particular qualifications does the department of corrections director have in knowing whether this is equal quality or not. Why did you choose him.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Because he's in charge of this particular operation. And he's the one that would be determining whether or not this was the type of printing the state should have under these circumstances. We didn't need to choose him. You can have anybody you want. The state purchasing agent can be named in there, but..

SENATOR KELLY: That would make some sense. Having somebody be the judge of what was equal quality. That is not part of the vending contract which the department of institutions is.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: You see they have purchasing agents. The thing you're not looking at they have purchasing agents in the department of corrections. In fact the purchasing in the state of Nebraska will probably check with them anyway. Because that's what you are going to be doing anyway.

SENATOR KELLY: An example in my mind, such as the highway department wants to buy some printing and the department of institutions says it's equal, and the highway department says it isn't. If I way running the highway department I would want something to say about that.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: That's an argument. I'll grant you, it's an argument.

SENATOR KELLY: Well what's an easy way to change it.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Just amend it.

SENATOR KELLY: Can we strike that out of there entirely, and not have the judge.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: No you're going to have to have some judgement, otherwise when you say. Unless such articles of equal quality could