

January 9, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I want to support the amendment and the bill. As I understand it there are a number of children in western Nebraska that are not now being serviced by the school in Omaha. I wouldn't want to take anything away from the school in Omaha. But I think this is an opportunity that we can give service to the people in other parts of the state. Now I've had a good many letters from people in western Nebraska wanting me to lend my support to this bill. And -they - one of the things why they want it in western Nebraska, they would like to have these children home once in awhile. It is four hundred miles from that part of the state to Omaha. And this would make it more convenient for them to get their children in school. I certainly want to lend my support to the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. Of course I'm from western Nebraska. I get a lot of these letters from 9 or 10 people out there that have acoustically handicapped children. I think this is one time that the Legislature is giving ear to a small amount of people that crying out of the darkness to get their kids at least educated. And I think it's a wonderful thing that we can do for this small amount of people with no lobbying from anyone except just people crying from the darkness, trying to get a little help. And I think it's a wonderful thing that we can do it.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion now of the Whitney amendment as amended by Senator Kelly. Any further discussion. Senator Chambers. Actually we have only the Whitney amendment as amended by Senator Kelly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: May I ask Senator Whitney a question.

PRESIDENT: Sure. Does Senator Whitney yield.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Whitney, I like what Senator Clark said and if I wasn't favorable toward the bill what he said would have swung me that way, but I'm favorable toward it anyway. But here is the question I have to ask to you. Since we are in favor of helping children is one child as important as a thousand children? Would one child be entitled to help if that child needs it and that state has it in its power to grant that help?

SENATOR WHITNEY: In answer to your second question. Is yes. I think any single child is sufficiently important That we should give that child an education.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If I come to you since you are interested in helping the acoustically handicapped with a young black child who was certified by an agency who is connected with the Nebraska University's College of Medicine, a child rehabilitation clinic, and they thought he should go to the Nebraska School for the Deaf, and the Director refuses under all circumstances to allow this black child to enter the