

February 6, 1979

LB 124

CLERK: Mr. President, the body last considered LB 124 on January 25. At that time we adopted the E & R amendments. Senator Murphy made a motion which was adopted by the body on January 22nd. Senator Koch amended the bill on February 2. I now have pending a motion offered by Senator Haberman which laid over for the proper time requirements. The motion is to indefinitely postpone and it is offered by Senator Haberman.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: On your motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow legislators, if you look at this bill, if you look at the background, what it is is a federal government gave a three year federal grant to this organization to have the program. The federal government has now withdrawn that grant and they wish to come to the Legislature and ask for tax dollars to continue the program. I realize that \$31,500 is a small amount but this is the opportunity for the Legislature to show the people in the State of Nebraska this is the time to stop some of this continuing spending, of ending the government programs. This is the time to stop giving out \$30,000 here and \$30,000 there and at the end of the session ending up with a hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand dollars. This is the time to say, no. We are going to stop this. I have a letter from them that says they possibly can continue this with private funds. They presently are using private funds, and that in three years, they will not ask for any money. However, also in the letter, for you Senators from Douglas County, the taxpayers of Douglas County are already contributing to this program of the Radio for the Blind and Disabled. They are already contributing. If you pass this bill, they will be double taxed. So I ask you fellow Senators to vote yes to kill the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol, then Senator Koch. Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the kill motion to LB 124. This is not a popular thing to do because when one rises on this floor to support a kill motion that has benefits for the blind or the retarded or the physically handicapped, sometime you feel like you are being tabbed as a communist or something worse than that for opposing such a bill. Senator Koch has been a kindly person, a compassionate person, and through the years you can see it showing on