

March 28, 1979

LB 500

SENATOR MARSH: We have only begun to correct our deficiencies. The effort we make must be a joint effort. My commitment is sincere, as is that of Lt. Governor Roland Luedtke, who has been assigned to coordinate activities in this area, but we need the help of every one of you to make Nebraska a leader in Affirmative Action. With our Governor's words, I simply can echo again, we need LB 500.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Keyes, did you want to speak on the bill?

SENATOR KEYES: I would like to answer a question of Senator Haberman. Is Senator Haberman around? Senator Haberman, the Equal Opportunity Committee...they take care of problems that have existed as it came about within the departments of state government, and it becomes very expensive, I know, to handle them, but if we create this committee, we will handle the problems before they come problems. We will solve them before they ever become a problem. This Equal Opportunity Commission will interview and will do what we are not doing now, and we will not be complicated. We will not be compelled to have an Equal Opportunities Committee...Equal Opportunities Commission. It is my feeling that this will solve what you are so worried about, and to put the two of them together would be like putting two horses together on a double team...putting one one way and one the other, and the one that can pull the most would move forward. So we do what we are doing here in this Equal...in this Commission and you will find, Senator, that we will be alright, I'm positive.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Keyes, I'll ask you a question.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes, have you got a question of me, Senator?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Yes, I do. Do I understand from that eloquent speech that you just made, that you would support me next year in doing away with the Office of Equal Opportunity?

SENATOR KEYES: If this Commission functions properly, and after about two years it should eliminate the need of that. It should eliminate the need. I don't guarantee that it can. Human beings are human beings, and they make errors, but this should...this Affirmative Committee, and the Governor asked for it, and it should help.

SENATOR HABERMAN: In other words, you would...if we're both