

April 4, 1979

LB 291

reciprocal agreements with Chadron State, with Wayne, with Peru, with UNO. There are some unique problems in terms of those institutions that offer programs that are low in terms of desire but high in terms of state need. A number of us have spent at least three years, and I went through my portfolio here, that started in '75, Senator Clark, trying to put together an organization controlled by elected officials, the Governors, the members of the Legislature to attempt to work out mutual problems in higher education. Of all the people that I trust in terms of making those rational decisions, are the members that are elected. This compact will be composed entirely of elected officials, reporting back to the Appropriations Committee and asking for any money that is forthcoming from Senator Rumery and from Senator Warner and from Senator Hoagland and from Senator Marsh and from Senator Fowler and from Senator Dworak. It is a reasonable thing. It is a long-range plan and let me make the record straight one more time. It will not have any effect on the vet medicine issue and I think some people have raised that. That issue is going to be resolved by the Legislature this year or next depending on how fast we move through issues but it is important that we enter into this with our neighbor states or we are going to be left alone. I have great confidence in the members of the Legislature from North Dakota and South Dakota and Kansas and Iowa and Nebraska and Illinois and Ohio and those we have dealt with. Mr. President, it is up to this body in terms of what you want to do but in terms of long range goals the objectives of this compact are valid, they are sound and we must move to assist them of higher education where we work with those from the states around us with common interest, with common economics. I suppose the motion I ought to make is that we immediately eliminate the Old West Regional Compact because that again is four or five states working together. I do not desire to do that. It think it is important that those five states work together. Mr. President, I oppose the kill motion.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President and members, little did I think that this would have any opposition of the Legislature. It came out of the Education Committee of the Council of State Governments of the Midwest Conference. Harold Schrier, the Senator from South Dakota, chaired that committee, did a tremendous job for three years