

April 4, 1979

LB 291

getting this compact together, ironing it out. What this compact does is to keep the duplication out of education of the different states. That is exactly what it is for. If there is anything we need, I think, is to get the states together to stop duplication of programs so we don't offer all the same thing. That has been the trouble with education the way I look at it and all this is is a compact between the states to stop the duplication of higher education. I would certainly oppose the kill motion on it. I didn't even think it would have opposition in our Legislature because this is a thing we have always wanted to do. Thank you.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Lewis, I wonder if you would yield to a question please. Senator Lewis, I have a question that I think is important for the record. Should Nebraska decide five years from now that this is not a good idea, is it possible or what procedure would be involved to withdraw from this particular compact?

SENATOR LEWIS: The procedure is we could withdraw. Because we would think there would be encumbered obligations for a year or two we would have to participate until that two year period which is part of most compacts and then we are out.

SENATOR CULLAN: And so you simply withdraw by not appropriating the funds?

SENATOR LEWIS: Yes. In essence, here is what really happens and we have been through this before with one compact. If we decide not to appropriate the money, the money is not appropriated and the ability to retrieve that is not very good in terms of then getting it back so if Nebraska is really dissatisfied they can get out in a year, practicality.

SENATOR CULLAN: Thank you.

SENATOR LEWIS: Technicality, legally, there is a two year withdrawal period in order to be fair to the rest of the states.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, when I look at some of the problems we have in higher education in the coordination of higher education and a good number of us spend a good, spend most part of at least