

April 12, 1979

LB 39

\$3.50 to the individual having this test made. Now the idea of the State of Nebraska doing this for a dollar, it did cost more to collect the dollar than it did, but that did not reflect the cost to the State of Nebraska. There's no reason to believe that the cost to the State of Nebraska and the state laboratory would be less than it would to a pathology laboratory, and that's the reason that I support the amendments to the bill from the Committee. Thank you.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would close on the Committee amendments again. I believe that they are necessary if the bill is going to be supported by a large number or at least a sufficient number of the members of the Public Health Committee and certainly I speak for myself. There was no evidence presented to the Public Health and Welfare Committee by Senator Marsh or anyone else that indicated that the Department of Health could perform this test any more economically than individual labs spread across the state. I did give some incorrect information to Senator Stoney and so I do want to clarify that. These tests are paid for by the parents and not by the state, and I did want to straighten that out. Again, no information was presented to the Public Health and Welfare Committee that the state could perform this cheaper. It is my feeling that when this can be done privately, there is no sense to require that the state do it, and if you would rather have your private physician do it, or have it done in a laboratory somewhere else, that should be your own alternative. I don't think the purpose of this bill, and I know it is not Senator Marsh's intent, to give the State Department of Health a monopoly or a monopoly very clearly in this particular area, and that that choice should be up to the individual, and so with that I would ask that the Committee amendments be adopted.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Committee amendments to LB 39. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. We're voting on the Committee amendments to LB 39. Have you all voted? We're voting on the Committee amendments to LB 39. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Marsh, we have six minutes left.