

April 18, 1979

LB 172

this problem and I say that we are prepared to do something about this problem today by adopting these amendments. Now I am sure you all know that LB 172 as originally introduced was a compromise bill. It was a bill that was worked out by the State Department of Health after consultation with the major providers and that agreed upon bill, frankly, the green copy in this particular case, very likely does not go far enough. It very likely does not go as far as we are going to need to go in future years if we are going to seriously address the problem of inflationary health cost containment costs. Now I have here a newsletter by the Nebraska Hospital Association dated December 21st, 1978 in which they, in effect, agreed to the green copy of the bill and they, in effect, endorsed that with some minor reservations and this newsletter I think is proof of the fact that the original bill as introduced before it was worked over by the members of the Public Health Committee was indeed a compromise amendment and was indeed satisfactory virtually to all the parties concerned. Now at this point I would like to explain the package of amendments that we have introduced. Now that consists of 28 separate amendments and what I would like to do now is briefly describe the ten or eleven most important amendments and I would like to indicate that those amendments go back to the green copy with three exceptions, with three relatively minor exceptions which I will explain as I go through. Now I would like to refer you to this particular package that was handed out about ten-thirty this morning. It is called Analysis of Amendments to Committee Amendments LB 172 and in the left hand margin each of the 28 amendments are numbered, and if you would like to follow through, I will explain ten or eleven of the most important amendments until my time runs out. Now the first amendment decreases from \$150,000 to \$100,000 the threshold amount of the capital expenditure that requires certificate of need review by the mechanism set up in the bill and I think most of you understand what that is about. Now turning to the next page, amendment #4, now amendment #4 puts back into the green copy the provision that requires in an expansion or a reduction...

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: One minute, Mr. Speaker, thank you. That an expansion or a reduction or a modification of an existing health service has to receive certificate of need clearance if that expansion or reduction involves an expenditure of more than \$100,000. That applies to most instances. There is some exceptions to that. Number 5 is the next important amendment that I should describe. Now number 5 puts back