

April 18, 1979

LB 172

said to the people of this state we now have the con bill, better known as LB 172, and you can be assured tomorrow your costs of health service are going to go down. If you really want them to go down, then why don't we adopt the national system like Britain has.

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR KOCH: How good is their service? How cheap is it? It is not very cheap and it is miserable. But when you start to dabble in private affairs of the profession and the providers, then I think you had better be careful so you don't stifle their initiative and their desire to provide the best care available based upon the needs of a local community. And the 1122 commission, if that is so good, why have they been such a miserable failure in the last seven or eight years? Why didn't they say, no?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR KOCH: As Senator Goodrich said, one time out of eight hundred and some pieces of paper there was one rejection that they were upheld on. I will keep the 1122 commission. Senator Cullan and others of us are willing to keep the 1122 commission because obviously that is going to be the answer, whoever and whatever they are. They are going to really solve the problems for us but we will keep them there.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Time is up.

SENATOR KOCH: I would hope this body before we finish this bill will look at reasonable amendments and come back and work together and try to make it a bill that is fair to all.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I stayed out of the debate. I stayed off the floor to make sure I would stay out of it but I listened to it upstairs and I would say that it was one of the highest levels of debate that I have listened to since I have been in the Legislature and I have been here a good number of years, and for Senator Cullan and his cohorts, it shows that even on the wrong side of an issue, there can still be a very capable and effective presentation of a point of view. I even agree with Senator Koch that this can be called a con bill because the word con simply means against and this bill is designed to be against gouging or pricing of health care above or outside