

April 27, 1979

LB 382

made several. They come from ten miles. They come from one hundred miles. They come from two hundred miles and they come as far as four hundred miles. I think that should tell us something. Now what about the bill? Well, very simply this, ladies and gentlemen, the bill would just simply authorize the sale, the prescription and the administration of laetrile in the State of Nebraska, and if you by your vote this morning decide to support LB 382 with 25 votes, we will become the 21st state in the Union to legalize the administration, prescription of laetrile and I think it is important that we understand what the intent of the Legislature here is this morning in giving the seal of approval to LB 382. We are not telling the people of the State of Nebraska that laetrile is a cure for cancer. I am not saying that. You are not saying that and the people in the balcony are not saying that. I think this legislation does one thing and one thing only and it represents only the Legislature's endorsement of a patient's freedom of choice. Freedom of choice in America, by all means. We are here in America and we use this principle of freedom of choice every day in our lives. Unfortunately the Chad Green situation, for example, they did not have a freedom of choice. They had to flee America. They had to flee the courts. They had to flee law enforcement officials from gaining custody of a young child because the parents felt that the recommended treatment for their child here in America was a chemical blowtorch and eventually the causation of death to their child. They fled America. They fled clear across the country to Mexico. Why? To save the life of their child. And you know something, ladies and gentlemen, and news media, I hope you are listening and listening well, amid reports this week that Chad Green is not doing well is very fictitious and erroneous. Chad Green is doing very well at this very time. I think in Mexico it is 8:16 in the morning. He should be in preschool right now and I am sure he is. In talking with his grandmother in Hastings, Nebraska this morning who is on the campus of Hastings College has indicated she has gone through a great deal of emotional strain as a result of this issue. Why her daughter had to flee America and why the new media had to come down so hard on the family. It has been very trying for that family but we here this morning can lessen that burden to families clear across our great state. There are people in the balcony who go to another state and spend literally thousands of dollars each month to obtain laetrile. We can ease that burden, ladies and gentlemen. Whether we pass LB 382 or not, they are still going to leave the State of Nebraska. Thousands of Americans are now using laetrile in cancer therapy. It is rather obvious to all of us and I think with a great deal of success. My general position on