

May 2, 1979

LB 594

SENATOR SIMON: Well let me ask you and this is a subjective question but at what point do you think that the cost of renovation exceeds the usefulness of the building?

SENATOR WARNER: The cost of renovation? I suppose if renovation costs exceeds probably \$30, \$35 a square foot why you ought to start looking at new construction.

SENATOR SIMON: What would that compute to then on this building?

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: I don't know the square footage on the top of my head, Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we continue it is my pleasure in the South balcony to introduce from Senator Burrows district eighteen fourth grade students from the Adams, Nebraska School. Would you hold up your hands and show us where you are? Welcome. The Chair recognizes Senator Koch to close on his amendment.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, if we are going to move out of that building and give it away or do something with it, then that is fine, but I believe for us to ignore that building simply because we find a few dollars that are minus I think is a waste of tax dollars totally. I am almost certain that that building will remain and be a part of state agency. That is why I believe it is good business for us to take \$60,000 right now and to develop a plan of renovation to bring that building back to some decent respect particularly as it relates to the heating, the air conditioning, large offices and a lot of other problems internally. We are going to buy the Elks Building for the State Historical Society and I understand the State Historical Society and I have a great appreciation for it. I know their needs. By the same token I think that the visually impaired have similar needs. After all these are human beings that we are talking about. That building can also house additional services for the visually impaired besides what we are presently using it for if we would bring it into a state of condition that was one of being somewhat modern particularly as relates to fuel and energy. But if we are going to get rid of the building then I suppose we might as well just ignore it but I submit to you we will not