

May 9, 1979

LB 363

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler, is the first issue as far as you are concerned, the adoption of the amendments that have to do with the council and secondly, capital construction?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, sir.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch, you have explained your amendments to the committee amendments. Right?

SENATOR KOCH: That is correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Maybe I should make my comments on the council at this time since Senator Koch has actually made his comments on the necessity for the council and Senator Cullan has spoke on the council. Would that be appropriate?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, go ahead. I am still trying to put all this together. Go ahead.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Senator Cullan has gone over a number of reasons why the council is not a good idea. I didn't hear his entire remarks so forgive me if I am going over this point separately, but to me this is a very important point. I don't think there is a need for the council and basically the reason is this. The council, under the Nebraska Constitution, cannot have any real control over the separate colleges. The council can do its thing and come up with an idea and if one of the area colleges says, no thanks, we don't like the idea, they are back to step one. Under the Nebraska Constitution the council can have no effective power. Therefore, I don't see any reason for creating another government body which has no power. They can coordinate but the six separate college areas can do that right now. All they have to do is designate somebody to go out and talk to the colleges about a specific problem and they could have the same degree of coordination. The only value to a council is if they can, in fact, enforce some changes and constitutionally they cannot do that. The fiscal note on that was \$83,000 minimum. I don't think that a council can be very effective on \$83,000 to coordinate anything. So I think, effectively, in a matter of a few years it is going to be considerably more money than that if they really intend to coordinate. This is probably reading into it. Well it is reading into it on my part but basically what I think the council is all about is the fact that they realize that there is a great deal of support in this body for a state controlled community

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