

May 9, 1979

LB 363

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR KOCH: From the interim study report I would like to quote to you from Senator Cullan. He wrote a minority report. Recommendation #4, that in the event none of these things happen, he talks about and he is pretty much in favor of state control of community college. He says that the state should therefore create and support an agency at the state level which will act as an information gathering and dissemination body, budget consolidation, presentation, coordination capacity. Perhaps beyond all other recommendations, this recommendation received top priority on the basis that such a structure would go far to address the criteria established in this report and that resulting from LR 279, assuming that the property tax is maintained as a means of supporting technical community colleges and this is from Senator Cullan's minority report. Now then to make a further statement on the council and I want you to listen to this very carefully because it is carefully delineated and it is very specific. It says the council shall establish guidelines for the receipt and distribution of funds particularly state aid. Two, shall establish guidelines for federal funds made available for the assistance to technical community colleges according to provisions of the acts of Congress. Section 18 says the council shall coordinate and consolidate reports, information, budgets and other data from separate technical community college areas when such consolidated reports, information, budgets and other data is either required by private or governmental agency or institution or is necessary to properly reflect the activity of all community colleges and areas in this state. The council shall collect data, conduct studies, prepare reports and establish recommended guidelines for the purpose of assisting technical community colleges in their efforts to comply with the general requirements prescribed by law and we are the people who have been generally prescribing laws and I would go back to the remark made earlier, that if the community colleges have some internal problems, I submit to you that one of the reasons for that is because each year this body annually deals with community colleges. We have not given them an opportunity to see if they can live within the confines of various laws including LB 344, LB 922 and several others, that for some people who want this community college system to go under a statewide system, it is sort of easy then to try to do certain things that would indeed lead us to the point where the community colleges would be