

May 9, 1979

LB 363

SPEAKER MARVEL: That is #3 isn't it?

SENATOR KOCH: I took that up, Mr. Speaker, because it is obvious the formula does not have a great deal of problem with the body. We are dealing with time. We might as well get rid of an issue that is controversial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, this is #3 then?

SENATOR KOCH: That would be #3 I guess, the way Mr. Cullan has it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: All right, Senator Cullan, do you wish to respond?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I do not want to consume a great deal of your time as I know we are all concerned about the amount of time left in this legislative session but of the Koch amendments this is the one I object most strongly to. This particular amendment, and I have an amendment to correct, to make a change in the committee amendments that will follow later and I will give my arguments for both right now but following Senator Koch's amendments I have an amendment pending to ensure that a two and a half mill levy limit stays in the technical community college system. Now I remember there was a great deal of debate earlier in this session on a bill that allowed natural resource districts to have an expanded mill levy in a control area. We were talking about a half a mill and we were talking about it in just a few areas across the State of Nebraska. In this particular bill and in this particular amendment that Senator Koch offers, you will treat the western half or western third of the State of Nebraska differently than you treat the eastern half or eastern two thirds. His amendment allows an area board of technical community colleges to exceed the two and a half mills, to exceed that two and a half mills by an amount sufficient to bring them to the 7% annual increase as per the lid bill from this session. Now I am very strongly concerned about that because I feel it is very improper to treat the western end of the state differently in the funding of technical community colleges and as far as mill levies are concerned. Now let me say very clearly that the western technical community college area or any technical community college area can exceed the two and a half mills today if they can get the voters of their areas to go along with it but they don't want to do that because some of them know that if they submitted the two mills and