

May 22, 1979

LB 357

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers and then Senator Johnson.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, once again that Senator from that great urban area out there around Farnam, Nebraska is going to be opposed to something that several of his rural colleagues are for. I rise to support Senator Koch. In order for, I think probably I have got as much of a feeling for the veterinarian profession as anybody in here. I think I have probably researched this bill as thoroughly as anybody in here with the length of time I have had available to me in this body. First of all, the livestock business is my only business and I do have a son that is in the College of Veterinarian Medicine. In two more years he will be a doctor of Veterinarian Medicine, the good Lord willing, and it has been mentioned here that students from the State of Nebraska need to have a facility here in order to get into school. I have been contacted by a lot of people that want this bill because of the fact there is students that can't get into vet school and I understand that, too, since the son that is in vet college has got an identical twin brother that applied for vet school and wasn't accepted. If you have twin sons and one of them gets in and the other one doesn't, I think that qualifies me knowing how parents feel when their children don't get accepted but I think one thing is escaping us. If we do build this fine facility over here on the East campus, that doesn't mean that every student in the State of Nebraska that wants to be a veterinarian is going to be one. We are still going to have Nebraska students that can't get into vet school. Obviously if the profession is as easy to get into that everybody could get into it, it wouldn't be worth being into but I think the real question here is a matter of spending money that might not be necessary. Senator Kremer says this is simply a bill that would authorize some things and we are not spending any money and that is correct but I have watched how this body works and once you authorize something you are almost committing yourself from then on. Nobody backs down. Senator Kahle mentions that Iowa would like to talk to us now that this bill is in the works. I saw copies of the minutes of a meeting that was held in September of 1977 and they indicated at that point in time they would like to talk to us. The bill wasn't in the works yet then. It is just pretty obvious to me that some of the most conservative people of this state, and by the way I am a member of the Nebraska Stockgrowers Association, and they are a conservative group, but suddenly they want this expenditure, they want this building. It is pretty obvious that I can be very conservative with my money for your program but very liberal with your money for my program