

January 16, 1980

LB 184

committee amendments then? All right, Senator Keyes, will that constitute a close on the committee amendments? Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: That is the closing because I understand we have a project in Omaha that we are going to purchase and this amendment just allows us to do that.

PRESIDENT: All right, so that constitutes the close. The motion then before the House is the adoption of the committee amendments on LB 184. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of committee amendments, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. The committee amendments are adopted and now we will get to the bill itself. The Chair recognizes Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, ...do you want me to go ahead?

PRESIDENT: Yes, proceed. We have some amendments but I think you ought to explain the bill at this point.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Okay, first of all, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am pleased to be one of several introducers of LB 184 on behalf of the veterans of this state. The primary purpose of this bill of course is to authorize the establishment of a second Nebraska Veterans' Home to be located in Douglas County. The bill does not and is not intended to alter in any way, statutes relating to the governing of the veteran's home and the administration thereof. I think that you will find that in the bill you will find such words as "persons"...well excuse me. I think that such words as "widows" and "wives" were deleted and I think...well in place of that "spouses" and "persons" were included and primarily the reason for that, we have quite a few young ladies today serving in the Armed Forces and of course for them to be afforded the same privileges as males are afforded in the Armed Forces it was important that we had that particular language in the bill. I think it is important that we look at some of the statistics that are involved in our effort here this morning. Officials have informed the Nebraska veterans that by 1985 they will have a need of 1,250 beds and by 1990 a need of 1,300. It is kind of interesting that we look at our situation presently. In 1978, 109 Douglas County veterans were housed in Grand Island and Grand Island of