

March 11, 1980

LB 849

whether or not a fighter should be allowed to continue fighting. I think that is a very serious mistake. I again refer you to what happened in New York City where a boxer was brutally beaten and died, where the State Legislature then put a stop on boxing in the state, drafted up new legislation and all this happened because a fighter died. Now I would hate to have to see this happen in Nebraska, and it may not happen, maybe I am just an alarmist, but it seems to me that we are taking a giant step backwards by now saying that a physician's assistant is going to be able to serve in the same capacity as a physician. If a physician's assistant had the same capabilities as a physician, he wouldn't be called a physician's assistant. He would be a physician. He would have had that amount of training. Now I know that Senator Schmit when he introduced the physician's assistant bill did so with good faith and conscience in the idea that it is going to help areas where they didn't have doctors but I don't think Senator Schmit would have ever tried to tell anybody on the floor of this Legislature that a physician's assistant has the same knowledge, has the same background, has the same understanding as a physician because he doesn't and I would just say, Senator Vickers, that football, the intent of football is a sport and it is designed, it is manual dexterity and it is designed for one opponent going one way to cross the goal line. The intent of boxing is to beat your opponent helpless into a state of submission until he completely falls down on the canvas. That is what the intent of boxing is and that is generally what is done. It seems to me that boxing is a lot more serious, you have no headgear, you have no protection, boxing is a much more serious thing. The chances of a person being injured are much more serious and I cannot see why for the sake of convenience we are going to lower our standards to the point where somebody can be seriously injured or perhaps die. Now I strongly suggest to this body that we look at this amendment very carefully and I would urge you to adopt it.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question then is the adoption of the Simon amendment to LB 849. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 8 nays on the adoption of Senator Simon's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. The Simon amendment is adopted. Before we go to the next matter, the Chair would like to

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