

April 10, 1980

LB 1002

think as a state it is our responsibility to see that the law enforcement is provided, at least on an interim basis, to all the citizens of the state regardless of their color of skin, whether they are white or brown, they deserve that law protection. They don't have it. The county is not providing it. I think they have to go like twenty-five miles up to the reservation to provide some law enforcement and we all know that the problems that are created on reservations. They are somewhat special but they still deserve that law enforcement and the county is not providing it and I would go along with putting the Hefner amendment on, putting the money in for one year and during that year, work with that county and get them to go on record to support what they should be doing already. I think it is atrocious that we can let the situation stand by and not provide adequate law protection and law enforcement for thousands of people in the state. I support the Hefner amendment. I urge you to adopt it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Venditte. The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Okay. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. Okay, record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. The motion is to return LB 1002 for a specific amendment as proposed by Senator Hefner. Senator Hefner, do you wish to close?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I will be brief. I just feel that we should continue a program that has been working and of course, in order to do this, we would have to fund the Crime Commission another \$80,000 and this is what this amendment would do. Previously we used LEAA funds. They have run out and there will be no more of these funds. It is the responsibility of the state, of our state, the State of Nebraska, to provide law enforcement on these Indian reservations and if we don't do this I am sure that we will be paying at least that amount of money in increased welfare payments. It has been proven that we have reduced the crime on these reservations approximately 15% since this program was set up. Somebody brought up that it is the responsibility of the counties. These counties cannot do it because they are under a 7% lid and to increase their budget to take care of this would be certainly much more than a 7% increase. Senator Nichol spoke about a bill being in the Judiciary Committee and they didn't advance it. This is true and I would just say to Senator Nichol, if he disagrees with this philosophy