

April 14, 1980

LB 1004

offered in that state although it is permissive, no insurance company has chosen to offer that, and, in fact, the sponsors cannot name any companies that offer that because no insurance company will. When Senator Stoney said we want to give freedom of choice to the insurance companies, basically what he said was, we want to prevent them from having to provide this option because no insurance company is going to do it. So my amendment is meaningless. We are back to where we were when we started, and that is simply it is not a question of who shall pay for this. It is a question of whether or not state employees will be able to have abortion paid out of their health insurance no matter how it is paid. This motion is an attempt to stop public employees from using their insurance to pay for abortion no matter how it is paid for because there are no health insurance companies in the country and there are no health insurance companies in Nebraska that will offer the abortion only option. For this reason, I would ask those of you who supported my amendment originally not to support this amendment to 1004. The whole concept behind my amendment is destroyed. We are back to base one. Senator Stoney has effectively in trying to protect insurance companies from the inconvenience of offering this coverage, has removed any opportunity for that coverage.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak, do you wish to speak on the motion? Are you going to close on the motion? Not now, but are you going to close? Okay. Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: I would call the question, Mr. Speaker.

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

CLERK: 30 ayes, 5 nays, to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak to close on his amendment.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. Speaker, I move the adoption of my amendment and I give the rest of my closing time to Senator Labeledz.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really don't need the whole five minutes. I know we are all anxious to get out and get a sandwich. No matter how significant or insignificant the cost, I believe the amount expended