

April 15, 1980

LB 765

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you want to record your presence? Thank you. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Are you ready to start on LB 765?

CLERK: Yes, sir, I am. Mr. President, Senator Dworak moves to return LB 765 to Select File for a specific amendment, that amendment being to strike the enacting clause.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, there isn't a lot of debate, there isn't a lot that can be said on this bill. It is just a basic philosophical problem that I have with paying a 100% rather than 90% or 80%. I know when a local subdivision of government has a stake in a particular program they are just more prudent. I know when the State of Nebraska has to match a federal program with 50%, 20% 10% we have a tendency to be a little more careful as to how those dollars are spent. I know when individuals, and I guess maybe being in the insurance business and seeing 80% and 90% co-insurance clauses as a feature of an insurance company, even though the insurance company picks up 80% of a particular expense if a 20% stake comes out of your pocket you are just a little more cautious, you are a little more careful, you are a little more diligent. Now the philosophy of this bill going to a hundred percent is a bad philosophy in my opinion. The thing that even bothers me worse than than the 100% philosophy is that we have a tendency then to think of this federal money as somebody else's money. It is still our money. It is still our money. Now I know that there is a clause in the bill that says if federal funds dry up we go back to a 90% match. It seems to me that that clause in there is probably the most insidious, because it is all right as long as it is 100% federal money, it is all right if it is federal money to act imprudently and improperly. But, if it becomes state money, then we are not going to act imprudently or improperly. Then we are going to put a 90% matching factor in there. So the bill in itself screams to us of its own inadequacy and inefficiency. Lets waste federal dollars but boy we dare not waste state dollars. Who are we kidding? Whose dollars is the federal dollars? I just urge you all to think about this before this bill passes. Mr. Clerk, I request that the amendment be withdrawn.

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