

January 12, 1982

LB 423

the bill is advanced. I consented to permit Senator Sieck to use LB 423 as a vehicle for the changes that he would like to make in Nebraska law because I think they make a great deal of sense. I think it is important for all of you, however, to read the committee report and to read the summary of what the committee amendments contain and to read the amendments themselves which are on the reverse side of the committee report. The bill is very short and very simple, and I know Senator Sieck wants to be heard at length on this exceedingly good proposal. Let me just summarize in a word by saying that the basic intent of the legislation is to bring about teaching in the local school districts around the state of ways of preventing mental retardation through proper diet and nutrition during the months of pregnancy. It is becoming part of an existing provision of state law that requires that the public schools inform the students about the dangers of drug abuse and this would add to that section by requiring that the public schools inform the public about the importance of good nutrition during...as part of prenatal care. One final point I think that is important to mention is that this amendment also omits from the entire section any obligations that parochial schools might enjoy under Senator Sieck's proposal or under existing law which deals with drug education. So, Mr. Speaker, with that explanation I would be happy to answer any questions anyone might have and would move the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to adopt the Education Committee amendments and the Chair recognizes Senator Koch. LB 423. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Education Committee heard this bill and we had a bill that was dealing with gifted programs and then there were certain people who felt that in the area of instruction that the young people of this state should be given some background on developmental disabilities such as what causes certain kinds of handicaps, how they might be prevented. This goes back to what Senator Higgins mentioned a moment ago that we ought to spend more money on research on what causes handicapping and other problems that young people are faced with because of no fault of their own. So I ask for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: All in favor of the adoption of the amendment as explained by Senator Koch vote aye, opposed vote no. Clerk, record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

6535