

January 14, 1982

LB 126

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I think we've enjoyed all the debate we can stand so I simply ask for the adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 1 nay on adoption of committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The committee amendments are adopted. Now we are on the bill. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: I think we've run this one through. Let's vote.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I can't allow LB 126 to move on without making some remarks that are somewhat personal but if you think LB 126 is going to solve the problems of shoplifting, I think we are deceiving some people. I am going to support the bill but we have a very high drug problem in this state regardless of what we think and it spews itself all over the state as well. I was talking to Senator Wagner a moment ago. I knew about the thing going on in Ravenna several months ago and again it comes from a personal experience from central Nebraska, young people hooked on drugs walking into stores and picking up all kinds of things, then fencing them to someone intermediate and then it was finally fenced in Ravenna, Nebraska, and this I can get by affidavit. So what is happening is it's not really the poor folks that are doing this, it is some of the white collar people who can afford it, even afford the habit. I'm just saying to you that young people between the ages of sixteen to twenty-one or even older than that are in those stores picking up whatever they can and they know what the value of it is because they have to fence it to keep up a habit that costs great sums of money. So oftentimes we take the easy way, passing LB 126 which we believe is going to solve the problem. And I submit to you the greatest problem we've got in the State of Nebraska today in terms of shoplifting could well be, not because you are poor and you want something material but because of a terrible habit of drugs. We do a lousy job of getting