

February 9, 1982

LR 214

SENATOR CLARK: The resolution is laid over. We will now go to LR 214.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 214 offered by Senator Chambers, found on page 537 and 538 of the Journal. (Read LR 214).

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I don't feel that the discussion the other day was fair. I don't think it was adequate, so it became necessary to raise additional issues that were not considered that day. This resolution has been referred to variously as a polygraph resolution or an opportunity for the Legislature to put state dollars where its legislative mouth is.

SENATOR CLARK: Could we have it just a little more fair to Senator Chambers so he can at least hear himself talk.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Clark, I know what I am going to say and I am speaking for the record but I appreciate what you did. This is an issue that has caused some people discomfort, but so that it is clear what is being done here, the first four Whereases give the history of this road. It is being taken off the Interstate and put into the Interstate Transfer program. That program requires a specific appropriation by Congress and this is one of the programs that in the World Herald dated...well, I will go to the Lincoln Star, I have that one, January 29th, 1982, it mentions specifically the Interstate Transfer programs as the kind that will be returned to the state. In case that is not sufficient documentation, Senator Warner handed us a booklet which is a fact sheet on federalism and if you turn to page 7, you will see that noninterstate highways as well as airports and local mass transit are to be returned to the states. Should that not be adequate, there was an article in the World Herald, February the 8th, which says that the emphasis of the federal government is going to be on completing interstate systems, that primary and secondary roads will receive a low priority. Then if we go to the Lincoln Journal of February 8th, 1982, we will find these words, "Regarding highways Reagan's budget proposes to turn over responsibility for all highway programs except the interstate highway system." So that means roads like the North Freeway are going to be turned over to the states. Funding for them even while a part of the federal system of funding has been cut drastically. Since the Legislature has gone on record as favoring the completion of this road,