

March 24, 1982

LB 761

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 761 was a bill we considered yesterday. It is a bill offered by the Speaker at the request of the Governor. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 11. It was referred to the Appropriations Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. Yesterday the committee amendments to LB 761 were adopted. I now have pending, Mr. President, a motion from Senators Wesely, Remmers and Rumery to the bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, yesterday late in the afternoon we were about to consider this amendment. I passed around a handout. Unfortunately, many of you probably don't have that available on your desks or in your files at this point and I am sorry about that. I will try and get some more copies around to you. If you want some copies, I have them here. What we are trying to do with this amendment Senator Remmers, Senator Rumery and I have co-signed is to try and allow for \$20,000 to be provided to the Board of Regents to develop a program statement for the renovation of Morrill Hall, and what this program statement would do would be to look at the Hall renovation which we have heard through LB 632 to look at options, alternatives and costs and would then come back to the Legislature with detailed information as to how much is needed to renovate Morrill Hall. Now that is the motion, that is the amendment that we have cosponsored. The handout that you received included a number of different items going back through the history of the issue, which I should probably share with you at this point. This problem came to light about five or six months ago in the summer when it was discovered in the heat of the summer that the bones were cracking and that we were having difficulty maintaining our collection at Morrill Hall. There were a number of articles in the paper at that time about the problem and there was an effort undertaken at that point to do something about it. So we began to research the issue and try to do different background information searches to find out how much we are talking...of a problem we have, how much it would cost to resolve, and we came to the conclusion that there was a serious problem, that something needed to be done but we weren't sure about the cost item. So we developed a bill with Senator Rumery and Senator Remmers and I that was LB 632 that provided \$20,000 to do a program statement to look at exactly how much money we are talking about in renovating Morrill Hall. The problem is