

November 11, 1982

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best we could do in the limited amount of time that we have. I urge you to reject the Cullan proposal.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, most of it has been said and I am certainly not going to belabor the fact, but I do oppose the Cullan amendment. One of the things that I find in working as a Senator and legislator is that people lack information. It is appalling at times. Some of the things I don't like about ETV are the fact that we have to sit under these lights. I never have enjoyed that and I never will. The cost of the ETV system that we have in service and in place in Nebraska is...I don't have the figures, but I am sure a multimillion dollar function with all the stations that we have over the State of Nebraska. I would like to talk a little bit about that. The coverage of legislative news is not the same over the State of Nebraska as far as commercial television is concerned. They get an enormous amount of coverage in Omaha and Lincoln. We get pretty good coverage even in my area in central Nebraska, but there are lots of areas in Nebraska that do not get the coverage and the only place they get real coverage or nearly the only place at least for the news broadcasts is from ETV. I think it would be foolish to cut out the small amount of money we are talking about and take the chance that we are depriving some people who enjoy and are educated by Educational TV, and Capitol View is watched by a great number of people in my area. I hear them mention it all the time and some of them do it to learn something and some of it for entertainment I am sure. But nevertheless no matter what you do, it is probably more enlightening than some of the other things that are on television. But I do think that Educational TV should include some inside information on government operation. We already are delving into the court system and we have television coverage in our Supreme Court here right in this building. I think it would be foolish for us not to continue to provide the public with whatever we can through Educational TV.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, as I read this amendment it says to reduce the appropriation to NETV by \$73,000 for the costs associated with coverage of the Legislature. I wonder why it is just the Legislature we don't want televised. Is it because of what some of the Senators have said, don't let them know back home what we are really doing? Now this was passed around this morning to all the Senators to sign. Twenty of them signed it. Four are absent. Where are the rest of the Senators' signatures? Now I had an opportunity when this was passed around to really boost my stock with the commercial TV stations and maybe I could get some free publicity from them. If any of you have ever viewed commercial television or read the news media you will know there is probably about a 95 percent blackout on Marge Higgins. So I am not standing up here doing myself any good opposing this amendment and saying, let's keep this Legislature open to the people. But I will remind you Senators of something that happened in a previous session and

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