

not deprive other people of the state, only the people who live in the Omaha and Lincoln area, of a valuable educational and literature system so I simply rise to support this, LB 461. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Vickers, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I appreciate Senator Hartnett's support. It calmed me down just a little bit. It irritates me just a little bit that in the name of conservatism or something that we have those people from the Omaha Metropolitan area who have access to public radio saying, basically, look, the rest of you out there are second class citizens, we don't care whether you have it or not. We don't care whether you come up with...whether we give you the mechanism and Senator Abboud made the comment he didn't know why they couldn't use the federal funds now. I just got through telling you a little bit earlier, but I'll tell you again, you've got to raise private funds so you can get the federal funds to match it. We've got to have some mechanism to allow the private funds to be raised. That is the purpose of LB 461. That's its entire purpose. There are no...there will be no A bill with LB 461 this year whatsoever. I guess what I really want to say is that, you know, there's a lot of heartache going on out there in rural Nebraska right now and many of my constituents look at government and say, why doesn't government care about us? And many of my constituents are saying, are we really second class citizens? Does anybody in the whole damn world give a tinker's damn about what happens to people in rural America? And then we have people in this Legislature from Omaha and Lincoln, particularly Omaha, saying, we've got ours, we've got public radio, we don't care whether you have it or not. I don't know what is on public radio. I don't get a chance to hear it except when I'm here in Lincoln. But I'll tell you what, I'll tell you what, those of you from Omaha and Lincoln, if LB 461 doesn't advance, there will be an amendment up there to take your public radio away from you too. If we can't have it, you hadn't ought to have it. What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. Thank God there were not those kinds of people in here when the ETV network was put in place or we probably wouldn't be able to watch television on the public television network out home yet, but we did build a system that covered the whole state, one of the best ETV systems in the nation, but we don't have enough fortitude to expand that public TV network