

which, of course, is debatable. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I am opposing this bill. I just want to read to you a portion of the latest fiscal note that we got. This came from the legislative fiscal analyst.

PRESIDENT: Call of the house is raised, excuse me, Senator.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you. LB 461, as amended, provides enabling legislation for the Nebraska Educational Communications Commission to establish and operate a statewide educational and public radio network as funds become available. NETC is to seek funding from federal, state, foundation, and private sources for the capital construction and the operations of such a network over a period of time. Since the enabling legislation does not specify the level of funding required from each source cited above, the impact to the state cannot be determined at this time. It should be noted, however, that at some point in the future, some point in the future there may be an increase in General Fund expenditures due to this enabling legislation. I just wanted to call this to the body. I think the private companies, radio stations, are doing a good job. I do not see a need for this at this time. What we are doing, we are tying future Legislatures to appropriate money to put this in place. So I would urge you to vote against the advancement of this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem. Senator Withem. I'll move on to Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I don't disagree with Senator Hefner. I don't disagree with the fiscal note. It is absolutely true that there is the possibility that there could be some state funds asked for in the future because it is going to be part of the educational telecommunications system. We fund the educational telecommunications system right now. But let me remind Senator Hefner, and let me remind the rest of you that I don't remember ever passing an A bill in this body that didn't take 33 votes to pass. Now, if you don't want to fund it next year, then you don't get the 33 votes to fund it. It's that simple. It is that simple. Look at your book. Nebraska Broadcasters Association opposed this bill. They've always opposed this bill. It's a strange thing, the Nebraska Broadcasters Association opposes public radio. National Broadcasters Association supports public radio. The National