

March 23, 1982

LR 266
LB 970

Mr. President, a new resolution, LR 266. (Read. See pages 1387 and 1388, Legislative Journal.) That will be laid over, Mr. President.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, the next bill is 970.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 970 (read title). The bill was read on March 10th, Mr. President. It was referred to the Appropriations Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments. Senator Warner did had an amendment on page 1178 and I understand you wish to withdraw that, Senator?

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Warner, do you wish to withdraw that amendment? Okay, it is withdrawn.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Warner, do you want to explain the bill?

SENATOR WARNER: Okay, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, LB 970 is the bill necessary to recognize the increase in health insurance of that portion that the state pays. The increase in the fees for the health insurance is roughly a 26 or 26.3% increase. As you know there is no change in the legislation as far as the type of coverage that the state pays for. It is the minimum coverage. If the employee wants coverage in addition to that, that is paid totally out of their own funds. The bill does carry an A bill which should also be advanced with \$1,258,000 of General Fund money. Total cost is \$1,800,000 with cash and federal and revolving funds taken into account. I should point out that some of you may recall the Governor came in and felt that this could be absorbed by the various agencies, but because the cost for the insurance needs to be allocated back to each agency proportionate to their number of employees and their cost, we made revisions in the general budget, 761, to make an allowance for that \$1.2 million so it is not additional money. It is in essence the same concept proposed by the Governor but the A bill will ensure that the funds are appropriately assigned to each of the agencies to reflect that agency's cost. So I move that the bill be advanced. It is legislation we need to implement almost every...well, every year that bids are taken on health insurance and when new ones come in, this reflects that increased bid.

SENATOR KAHLE: There are no other lights on. Is that your closing also, Senator Warner?

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SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Next resolution.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 261, it's offered by Senator Beutler who has been excused. He advised me, Mr. President, that he wished not to consider the resolution today.

SENATOR CLARK: Alright, next resolution, 266.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 266 is found on page 1387. It is offered by Senators Carsten, Beyer, Dworak, Sieck, Koch and Fowler. (Read LR 266.)

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I'm certain that most of you have been reading as I have about the possible rescissions that could be made in reductions in student loans. You have read the same papers that I have. I appeared on a platform night before last with a group of students representing the University and private schools who have a deep concern about the fact that loans that have obviously been available to them usually by May 15 of each year presently are somewhat in a state of limbo. What this resolution does is it merely urges President Reagan to reconsider some of the cuts that are being considered for student loans. This is really a very serious matter. In fact the Legislature has an interim study this summer to look at the possibility of us establishing our own student loan program to supplement that that may be left by moot decisions by the present administration. So what this resolution does, it says that this Legislature encourages the President of the United States to reconsider some of his decisions as they relate to guaranteed student loans, to the Pell grants, to the basic opportunity educational grants, to other programs that have been available to other students for a great number of years. And I would remind you that if we get to the point where we deny access to the University because a loan is not available we are going to lose a great resource not only in this state but this nation. Instead of having taxpayers you could very well have people who will be users of taxes. So this is appropriate and I would hope that this body would accept this resolution in good faith, not as a criticism but as a consideration to the future student loan not only for this state but the states of this union. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Howard Peterson.

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would rise to oppose this resolution for several reasons. Number one, I think just three days ago the President of the United States indicated to all of this nation in terms of his broadcast from Barbados that he was not doing what is being said in this resolution, number one, and number two, I think it is time for us to tighten down some of the things that we have been doing in this country and certainly student loans is one of those things. We've got plenty of opportunity for students to get loans where the need is really there but for us just to say that everyone is eligible, everyone ought to have the opportunity and for us to finance the people who have the means of themselves, I think is wrong and I just would urge you to read the little brochure that I put out, coming out of the World Herald and I think we get a little idea of how selfish we can become in saying that we ought to finance all of those who want to go on for Master's or Doctor's degrees. It appears to me that those people who have done that with their own funds after getting out of college make a much better kind of a teacher, a much better kind of a researcher than those who we give everything free. I just believe it is time for us to back the President in what he is doing.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I wasn't going to enter into this debate but I think we need to recognize there are some people out there trying to get an education that do need some assistance. Now I would be the first to admit that there are people that have got this assistance, some of these loans probably didn't need them. It probably doesn't hurt to tighten up their criteria somewhat but there is a difference between tightening the criteria and doing away with them entirely. I would remind Senator Peterson that there are some professionals and I happen to have a son who is one of them who is being a very productive member of society today, thanks to the fact he was able to get a little assistance to go to school because quite frankly, on a legislator's salary and a farmer's pay I wouldn't have been able to send him otherwise. And if you are carrying twenty-three or four credit hours you cannot work on the side unless you are a real brain. I would suggest to you that there is very many people that come out of med school that aren't able to work while they are in med school. Now I don't think my son is actually what you'd call a dummy but he, and I'll be the first to admit it, he just plain didn't have the smarts to get a job and work eight hours a day and go to vet's school at the same time. Now if we want to go to a situation where only those people that can afford to get an education, then I guess maybe we ought to just do away

with the public schools to start with. Maybe that is what some people would like to do but I'm not one of them. As far as I'm concerned if somebody in this country has the ability to go to school and the desire to go to school and the willingness to pay back those loans after they go to school then, damn it, I think they ought to have the ability to get those loans. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch, do you wish to close?

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry that Senator Peterson feels this way but I think if he would look back through the course of his life that he received a hell of a lot of help. He is not at the last of the immaculate conceptions. It is easy for those of us who have achieved certain kinds of positions to forget how we got there and who helped us. Any one of us who sits in this body and say we've never been helped by the government under any circumstances are blatant liars. I suggest to you that for us to lose the professional colleges and students of this nation today would be one of the most disastrous things that could happen to us. I submit to you that this nation today, its economy is staggering, it's due to the fact we probably haven't paid enough attention to the brain power of this nation and haven't developed it to its fullest extent it's "mactimum optimam". Because if we lose doctors and it is amazing to me since I have been in here we have subsidized our students to be doctors in greater Nebraska, yet those same doctors today if we don't have them aren't going to greater Nebraska. Yet chamber of commerces are out here hunting for them as much as they can and if you don't think research doesn't pay for itself take a look at this nation, NASA, the man on the moon. We have spent a lot of money to split the atom and we put a man on the moon but look what that venture has made for this nation in terms of dollars and cents. For every dollar invested there is eleven dollars of return and you want to use the present system, it is called trickle down economics, I suppose. So I submit to you and, Senator Peterson, I will say to you, if you'll read everthing besides Mr. Buchanan you will get another point of view. We know who Mr. Buchanan is. He talks about fifty years ago and I remember that historical event when the veterans marched on Washington. That is where Mr. McArthur got his first name in history and I'll submit to you if we want to commit the same deeds of history, we may have another march on Washington one of these days as well. So let's prevent those kinds of things. That is what history is for. Learn from your mistake and profit by your records. I expected this body to unanimously adopt this resolution. It is not criticizing Mr. Reagan. It is merely encouraging him to take another look at student loans and realize the standard of

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need should not be so severely diminished, allow more people the opportunity and I'll submit to you also that Nebraska students, if you check their loan records, they are the lowest in the country in terms of honoring that debt. That closes my sermon. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of the resolution. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting no.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting no.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? Once more, have you all voted, please? Record the vote. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, I'd ask for a Call of the House and a roll call vote.

SENATOR CLARK: A Call of the House and a roll call vote has been asked for. All those in favor of a Call of the House vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 0 nays to go under Call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The House is under Call. I would hope that all legislators would take their seats and check in, please. All unauthorized personnel will leave the floor. There is nine excused. Would everyone check in, please. Senator Newell, Senator Kahle. We're looking for Senator Apking, Senator DeCamp, Senator Wagner, Senator Warner, Senator VonMinden, Senator Remmers, Senator Marsh, Senator Lamb. Senator Wagner, would you check in, please. Senator Remmers, your light doesn't work either? Okay, thank you. Senator Haberman and Senator Marsh. Senator DeCamp. Senator Marsh, for what purpose do you arise? Senator Marsh. We will have a roll call vote. The Clerk will call the roll. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: How many are excused?

SENATOR CLARK: Nine.

SENATOR KOCH: Forever?

SENATOR CLARK: There is nine excused right now.

SENATOR KOCH: Well, Mr. Chairman, go ahead. We will find out. The students will know what we think about students and professional education.

SENATOR CLARK: The Clerk will call the roll.

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CLERK: (Read roll call vote as found on page 1938 of the Legislative Journal.) 26 ayes, 12 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the resolution.

SENATOR CLARK: The resolution passed. The next resolution, 267. Motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Haberman would move to suspend the rules and vote on all the resolutions at one time.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is the last day of the session, we have got some people who want some bills reconsidered, they are all good resolutions, they are resolutions, that is what they mean they just resolutions, so I just say lets just take them all up at one swoop and vote them up or vote them down and go about the business of the Legislature. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: (no response).

SENATOR CLARK: All right, is there any further debate? Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, Senator Haberman would you be agreeable to dividing the question if this passed?

SENATOR CLARK: You don't have to answer that one. Do you have an amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hoagland would move to amend the Haberman motion by excluding LR 267 from it.

SENATOR CLARK: Do you want to take up that amendment? You want to withdraw the amendment or the resolution? All right. The resolution is withdrawn then. 267. All right we are back on the original motion by Senator Haberman. Senator Warner. We are on the motion by Senator Haberman to suspend the rules and vote on all resolutions at one time.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I was just wondering if Senator Haberman was going to summarize what each of them were so that...I don't know if I have time to look all of them up. If they are all just commending somebody why that is fine. But, if there is something in there that is more

LR 212, 266, 268, 269, 272, 274, 277,
278, 287, 292, 293, 295, 298, 304,
313, 316, 331, 359, 380, 388, 389
LB 278, 378, 378A, 480, 568, 602A,
604, 629, 629A, 669A, 688, 693, 708, 760,
835, 909, 967, 522, 212, 212A, 255, 255A

April 16, 1982

RECESS

PRESIDENT LUEDTKI PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Has everybody recorded your presence?
Record the presence, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President. Mr. President, I have a reference report from the Executive Board referring a gubernatorial appointment. (Page 1971 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, new resolutions. LR 388 offered by Senators Cullan and Newell. (Read LR 388 as found on pages 1973 and 1974 of the Legislative Journal.) Mr. President, 389 offered by Senator Wesely. (Read LR 389 as found on page 1974 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, I have an Attorney General's Opinion addressed to Senator Koch. That will be inserted in the Journal. (See pages 1974 through 1976 of the Legislative Journal regarding LB 602A.) That is on LB....Bingo, that is right, senator.

Mr. President, I have a message from the Governor addressed to the Legislature. (Read message. Pages 1976-77 of the Journal regarding LB 669A.)

Mr. President, two other communications from the Governor addressed to the Clerk. (Read communications regarding LBs 278, 378, 378A, 480, 568, 604, 629, 629A, 688, 693, 708, 760, 835, 909, 967. Page 1977 of the Journal.) A second letter to the Clerk, Mr. President. (Read letter regarding LBs 609, 609A, 669, 714, 714A, 854, 854A. Page 177 of the Journal.)

Mr. President, I have a gubernatorial appointment of Mr. Robert Borgmann to the Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board. (See page 1978 of the Journal.)

Mr. President, the bills that we have read on Final Reading this morning are now ready for your signature as well as the resolutions that were passed Wednesday of this week by the Legislature.

PRESIDENT: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business I propose to sign and I do sign LR 212, LR 266 and LR 268, 269, 272, 274, 277, 278, 287, 292, 293, 295, 298, 304, 313, 316, 331, 359, and 380. And the LBs are engrossed legislative bills 522, 212, 212A, 255, and 255A. Okay, as I understand it we