

# Marvel: no deficit haunting

By Theresa Forsman

Sen. Richard Marvel of Hastings, chairman of the Legislature's Appropriations Committee, said he will not allow state agency budgets to be cut until he is assured that the cuts will not come back to haunt him in January with deficit requests for the 1976-77 fiscal year.

The Appropriations and Revenue Committees met Wednesday, one week after the start of the legislative special session called by Gov. J. James Exon last month, to prevent a deficit in the state's general fund early next year because of cash flow problems. These occur when the state does not have enough cash to pay the state's bills.

Exon has said that for tax rates not to be raised, the Legislature must approve cuts in their May state budget. LB6, introduced in the Legislature by Exon last week, calls for a three per cent budget cut for all state agencies except the Department of Corrections.

The Appropriations Committee heard comments from several state agencies on their ability to withstand proposed cuts.

### Agencies questioned

Marvel asked the agencies' representatives:

-If the agency can withstand a three per cent cut when allowed to decide which programs will lose funds.

-If the agency can withstand a three per cent cut without the option of deciding where the funds will be lost.

-If the agency's budget is cut three per cent, will it ask for a deficit appropriation next year to get part of that money back?

### Withstand cuts

Most agencies indicated they would be able to withstand a three per cent budget cut if they were allowed to determine which programs would receive less money, as LB6 now reads.

The constitutionality of that clause has been questioned and Sen. Robert Clark of Sidney said a decision from State Atty. Gen. Paul Douglas on the legality of the clause is expected by Thursday.

But Marvel said he doesn't like that section of the bill because he said it usurps the legislature's responsibility to decide how state tax dollars will be spent.

Many agencies' spokesmen said that unless they are allowed to decide where the cuts will be made, they will ask for a deficit appropriation next year to make up for the cut.

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# Sororities locking up early

By Sandy Mohr

Because of recent break-ins at UNL sorority houses, many have been locking up earlier at night, and three are keeping their doors locked 24 hours a day.

All sorority houses but one are locking their doors at least one hour earlier at night than they were three weeks ago, and seven of the 15 campus sorority houses are locking up at 5 or 6 p.m., about five hours earlier than usual.

The most recent incident was an attempted break-in at Pi Beta Phi sorority, 426 N. 16th St., about 2 or 3 a.m. Sunday morning, according to President Pat Fiala.

The vandals were unsuccessful in entering the house, but broke a window in the kitchen and tore the screen door on the sun porch, she said.

### Unwelcome visitors

The Kappa Alpha Theta house, 1545 S. St., also has had "several incidents of unwelcome visitors," according to Housemother "Holly" May.

May said that about two weeks ago, two men were found wandering around on the second floor of the house, and were told to leave. Some money was missing, although it couldn't be blamed on them, May said.

She said a man attempted to enter her apartment at the house by ripping the screen off of her bathroom window. The intruder departed after May said she discovered him and asked him to leave.

Another intruder also was found on the roof of the house attempting to get into the sleeping dorms about two weeks ago, May said.

The only other Greek house surveyed that reported any intruders was the Delta Gamma house at 400 University Terrace. According to Housemother Helen Johannes, last Sunday a man walked into the house through the back door.

### Back door open

Johannes said the back door was left open at the time, and that "really invited them in," she said.

Although all but four of the sorority and fraternity houses are on city streets and therefore the city's responsibility, Campus Police patrols them nightly, Chief Gail Gade said. The four houses on university property are on N 16th St. by the Harper-Schramm-Smith residence hall complex.

"This doesn't mean that we don't help the city police," Gade said. "We're not going to just ignore it."

About three cars patrol the city campus at night, Gade said.

Neither Gade nor Lt. Jerry Smith of the Lincoln Police Dept. said the vandalism at the Pi Beta Phi sorority house this weekend had been reported to them.

Lt. Smith said there is no increase over last year in vandalism at Greek houses.

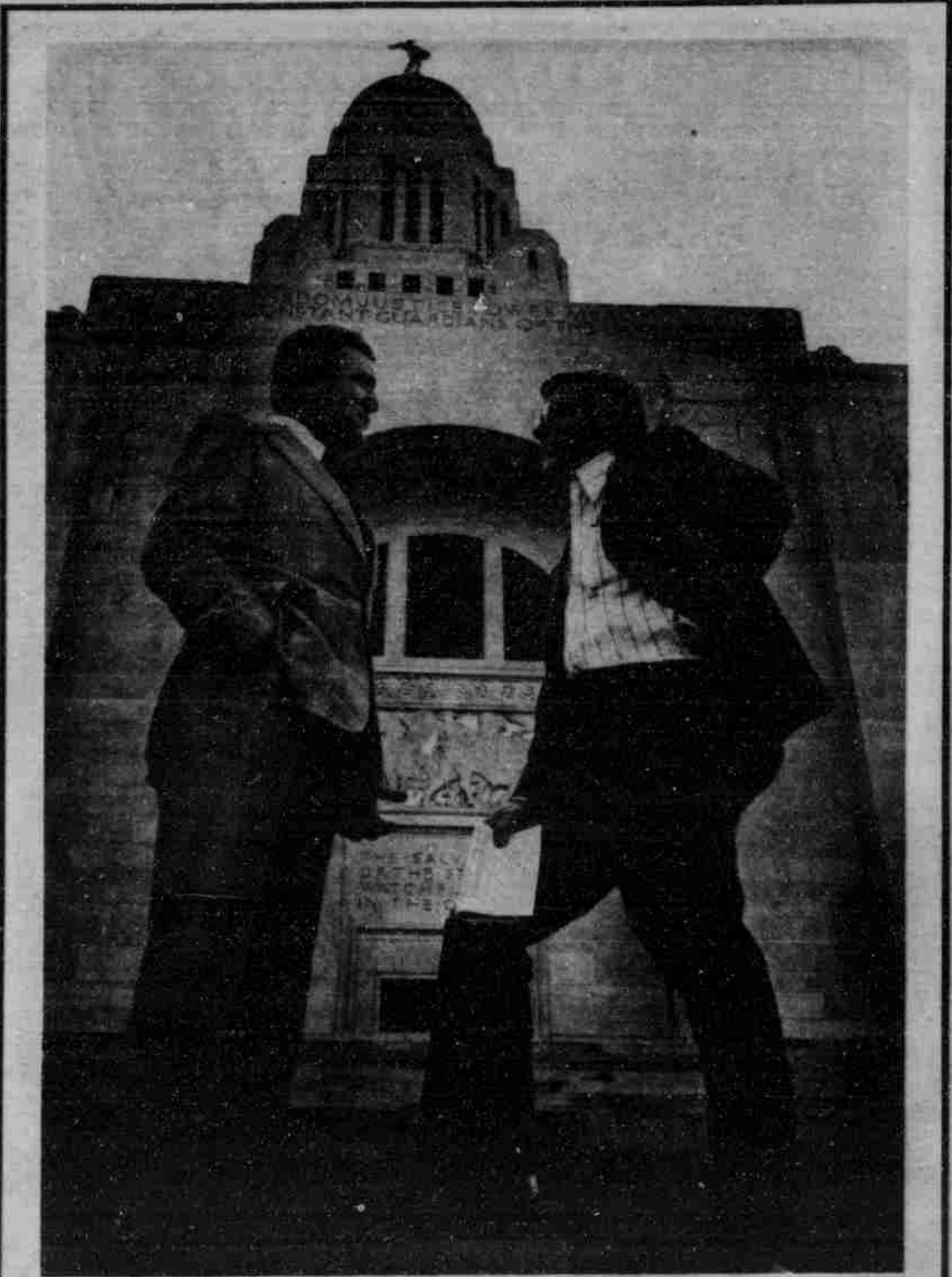


Photo by John Kalkowski

Jim Hartz, right, co-host for NBC's "Today Show," interviews Gov. J. James Exon Wednesday on the steps of the State Capitol. Hartz and the "Today Show" film crew taped a short Bicentennial segment on Nebraska to be aired Friday morning, between 7 and 9 a.m.

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**Thursday:** Mostly fair and warmer. High temperatures in the upper 60s.

**Thursday night:** Fair and mild. Temperatures in the low 40s.

**Friday:** Partly cloudy, temperatures ranging from the low to mid-60s.



# Wilkinson: criminal code repressive

By Ron Ruggless

Senate Bill No. 1 is the most repressive legislation the Senate ever has undertaken, the director of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL) said Wednesday.

Frank Wilkinson said the 753-page revision of the U.S. Criminal Code (called the Criminal Justice Reform Act of 1975) is supported by liberals and conservatives in the Senate, including Nebraska Sen. Roman Hruska.

"As it stands now," Wilkinson said, "the bill will have no impact on crime, but will definitely infringe on a person's freedom."

### Cuts freedoms

According to Wilkinson, the bill would:

- Provide mandatory executions for certain crimes under certain conditions.
- Provide three to seven years and/or a \$100,000 fine for passing vaguely defined "classified information to a person who is not authorized to receive it." Officials such as Daniel Ellsberg who helped leak the Pentagon Papers would be subject to imprisonment under this ruling, as would reporters receiving and editors printing such information, he said.
- Expand wiretapping authority, continue 48-hour "emergency" wiretaps without court approval and direct telephone

companies and landlords to cooperate "forthwith and unobtrusively" with government wiretappers.

-Impose a 15-year/\$100,000 fine for allegedly inciting other persons to engage in lawless conduct that would destroy the federal or state government, he said. It infringes on a person's freedom of speech, he added.

-Stifle the prosecution of public servants if illegal conduct (such as Watergate) is the result of a "mistaken belief that it was "required or authorized," or based on "written interpretation issued by the head of a government agency."

-Threaten civil rights, peace and other protests with infringements on the right of assembly.

### Press ignored

The law virtually was ignored by the press during its drafting, because of the Watergate and impeachment proceedings occurring at the same time, he said.

"The timing was extremely unfortunate," he said. "The press ignored it for bigger stories."

"Many people are just hearing of this bill for the first time because of Watergate," he said.

Senate Bill No. 1 is expected to come up for vote before Christmas or in the first

few weeks of January, Wilkinson said.

"We have little hope of stopping it in the Senate," he said, "but we are encouraged we can ultimately stop it in the House."

"We're really not counting on any of the Nebraska congressional delegation to help us," he added.

NCARL allies with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and he said Nebraska's congressional delegation has never been favorable to civil liberties.

"If Hruska gets a few hundred letters, he may see that his home ground is shaky," Wilkinson said.

"Hruska wants to go out of the Senate as a hero," he said. "He doesn't want to be branded for the next hundred years as the author of this bill if it's not accepted by the public."

### Election issue

He said the bill is bound to be an issue in the 1976 elections.

"Ten weeks after he took office, Ford endorsed the criminal code, so you know what stand he will be taking," Wilkinson said.

"The bill is actually Nixon's bill," he said. "It was drafted under Attorneys General John Mitchell and Richard Kleindienst, both involved in Watergate."



Photo by Kevin Higley

Frank Wilkinson, executive director of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation.