

February 26, 1975

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the amendments. I just gave the Pages the amendment. I didn't know it was coming up quite so soon. I hope they pass them out to you so each of you can read what it does. Do you want to read the amendment Mr. Speaker.

CLERK: We're trying to figure out which amendments they are. Are these the same amendments on page 20 of the Journal?

SENATOR KEYES: No they aren't. These are the amendments I gave you this morning. I found out that you have to state what a compact car is. Do the amendments have to lay over in the Journal one day?

CLERK: These amendments are as follows, and apparently are not in the Journal. On page 3, after line 8, insert the following, "Sec. 4. (1) The Legislature hereby declares that the purpose and intent of sections 4 and 5 of this act are to take positive steps to reduce the consumption of gasoline in this state and to make the most efficient and economical use of the nation's resources and the state's funds.

"(2) After the effective date of this act, not less than one half of all state-owned passenger cars purchased, leased or approved for purchase or lease by the transportation services bureau shall be of the compact class or smaller. For purposes of this section compact shall be defined as any passenger car having a wheelbase of between one hundred eight and one hundred fifteen inches.

"Sect. 5. After the effective date of this act, not less than one half of all passenger cars, except vehicles which are considered duty stations such as vehicles used by law enforcement agents, purchased, leased, or otherwise controlled by any political subdivision of this state shall be of the compact class or smaller. For purposes of this section compact shall be defined as any passenger car having a wheelbase of between one hundred eight and one hundred fifteen inches."

SENATOR KEYES: Now fellow Senators, when I started to check a compact car I found that the general run of cars in the United States, made by our local manufacturers in the United States, are of four sizes. They have what we call the great big automobile, the intermediate, the compact, and then the sub-compact. The easiest way to describe these cars is on the wheelbase. We went down to the purchaser and this wheelbase takes care of all. We were going to put it in number of cubic inches in a motor but that is not exactly the way to do it because sometimes a motor with a little bit bigger and a lighter car gets a little more efficiency. So this just simply states that any cars that are purchased by the State of Nebraska, or any subdivision of government in Section 5, and that would include the schools, the N.R.D.'s, the water conservation districts, every subdivision of state government that buys cars. Half of the cars that they buy next year, or more, shall be of the compact size. This is not the sub-compact. This is the compact. The gas mileage on these is about 25 to 35 percent more than it is on the big cars, and anywhere's from 15 to 20 percent more than it is on the intermediate cars. I was amazed, and you will find this very interesting, when we went to check about these cars