

April 21, 1975

PRESIDENT: All right.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President, I move the adoption of the Committee amendments to LB 187. The Committee amendments are very simple amendments which only strike sections 21 and 23 of the bill and the reason they do that...the reason is very simple, too, because of the fact that they set up an operative date of January 1, 1976 and establish an emergency, both of which, it was determined by the Committee, was unnecessary and not likely to be to any advantage to the bill. So the operative date in Section 21 was stricken and the emergency clause was stricken. That is the effect of the Committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of Senator Luedtke's amendments to the bill? The question is, the adoption of Senator Luedtke's amendment to LB 187. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays.

PRESIDENT: The amendments are adopted. It is your bill, Senator Clark? The Chair recognizes Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: I did hate to interrupt the procedure here but I kind of thought I might introduce the bill and find out what it was before Senator Kelly got on it. I am sure this is a good way to start out a bill, getting the whole thing up ahead some other bill everyone is interested in. But what this bill does, is to eliminate the District Courts as a procedure in workmen's compensation. They go, as I understand now, to the Workmen's Compensation Court first. If it is not decided there, it goes to the District Court and usually, what I can get from all the attorneys in the meantime, is the fact that 98% of them are settled there, and if not, they go to the Supreme Court. What this would do is take out the District Court altogether and they go directly to the Supreme Court. And it also adds another judge to the Workmen's Comp Court. With that, I would ask the bill to go to E & R for Initial and I am sure there is amendments.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Clark a question.

SENATOR CLARK: Yes.

SENATOR STULL: Senator Clark, if these cases, most of them are settled when they get in the District Court, why would you want to remove them and have them appealed directly to the Supreme Court?

SENATOR CLARK: Well, in the first place, I think it is the lump sum settlements that go to the District Court and that is where they are usually settled, at that time. If they are not, then they go to the Supreme Court.

SENATOR STULL: OK. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think this is one part of the bill I would have