

February 18, 1976

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Yes.

PRESIDENT: Record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill will be so returned.

CLERK: Legislative resolution #120 introduced by Senator Koch of the 12th Legislative District. Read resolution. See pages 707 and 708, Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, I am asking for consent to suspend the rules for the purpose of placing this resolution before the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee for a public hearing to be set at the convenience of the Chairman of that Committee and I have visited with Mr. Rasmussen and he has consented to this procedure and I am asking the body to provide me with this privilege to suspend the rules for the purpose of hearing of this resolution, public hearing.

CLERK: What about purposes of adopting it?

SENATOR KOCH: Adopting and a public hearing.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, may I ask Senator Koch what he proposes to accomplish by a hearing at this time?

SENATOR KOCH: What I hope to accomplish? I am interested in how fire safety is enforced across the public and private sector. I am not against their enforcing it in certain areas as they are but I am also concerned about whether they are doing it across the broad sectors in terms of fire code rules and regulations and I did have a resolution printed to the effect that we would have an Interim Study Committee, but I think, most of all, it would be good for us to have this type of a hearing to determine whether or not there is a need for an Interim Study Committee by that same Committee.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, by this resolution coming at this point, I am speaking strictly off the top of my head now. I am a member of the Military and Government Affairs Committee, Government and Military Affairs Committee, and I am not sure that it will be appropriate to have a hearing to determine whether an Interim Study is necessary. Personally, I think Senator Koch should be required to state what things exist that causes him to feel that fire safety codes are being, I guess you would have to say, discriminatorily enforced. I know that they have been making Omaha schools come up to standard as far as violations are concerned. I think maybe a couple of school officials have been fined.