

March 17, 1976

CLERK: I guess so if you want to just merge the whole package of the two together for one specific amendment?

PRESIDENT: Yes. Alright now the question is shall, with that understanding the question is, shall LB 782 be returned to Select File for the specific amendment offered by Senator Kime which incorporates Senator Chambers work. Do you wish to be heard on this subject, Senator Kime?

SENATOR KIME: Mr. Chairman, just a word of explanation of this bill is all. Gentlemen and ladies of this body. This bill was devised and sponsored by the Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association of the state. The intent is to ... for better law enforcement in Nebraska. Every sheriff's office in the state is interested in this bill. The bill has been held over time after time. This morning we would like to have it get on its way.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Thank you Mr. Whelan. The question I have is just somebody standing up and saying that we got together, this is a good bill and away we go, that's it. I don't quite understand why we should adopt that. Somebody has got to explain what we got in the bill or there will be no reason for me to support moving it up. I think maybe.... You want to do it? I might want to stand up here and start filibustering this one too.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Sure, fine, OK. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature. This bill is a result of much work, much confusion, disagreement, misunderstanding and finally coming back to a point of relative understanding. In order that Senator Barnett, if he will listen, will get the picture.... Senator Barnett, draw in your mind the picture of a football. It has a small end.... It has two small ends and a hump in the middle. Well at the first end is where we had what we thought was an understanding on 432. Then as we proceeded along the football we grew further and further apart, till we reached the biggest part of the hump where there was total misunderstanding and disagreement. LB 432 was in opposition to 782. We continued, as reasonable people, to hash out the situation and issues involved and realized that some kind of accord had to be struck, not Detante. We never used that term, but an understanding that better law enforcement is necessary, that these people who serve as quasi police officers need some kind of training and regulation. So we proceeded along the football, getting more and more agreement until we come to this morning where we're back at a point of understanding. This bill would eliminate all of those categories of specials, reserves and whatever you want to call them to bring everybody who served in this capacity under the umbrella of reserve force. No grandfather clause, no children clause or anything else. It's just a straight out bill which requires a type of training which will equip these people to better do the work that they are supposed to be doing in the role they are filling. However, it allows for training to occur at regional sites throughout the state. So, although, the law enforcement people are going to set up the requirements of training and the standards that must be met, everybody will not have to go to Grand