

February 13, 1979

LB 114

I just want to correct a couple of errors that were made in the statements made previous to now. Number one, President Carter specifically excluded workmen's comp payments from his 7%. The sponsor of the bill kept referring to what the labor unions want. Over more than several years that he was referring to, I have continuously reminded people the workmen's comp in this state covers some six hundred fifty thousand people. Everybody that works for a living is covered including the members of this Legislature. I agreed and helped vote this bill out of committee with the understanding that the business community would support the bill. I still would like a formula. Forty some states in these fifty states now work on a formula so this debate does not have to go on year after year and year after year with the auction as Frank called it, taking place every year. I would ask if Senator Hefner would yield to a question? Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT: Will you respond, Senator Hefner?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, I certainly will.

SENATOR BRENNAN: I had the understanding that Senator DeCamp's bill had the backing of business. Were you asked by business to submit this amendment?

SENATOR HEFNER: No, I was not.

SENATOR BRENNAN: This is all on your own, then?

SENATOR HEFNER: And I guess that I figured I was elected to serve here in the Legislature to express my own views and not those of anybody else and I introduced this amendment in good faith.

SENATOR BRENNAN: Thank you. I would ask Senator Cope a question if he would respond.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cope, will you respond?

SENATOR COPE: Yes.

SENATOR BRENNAN: You speak of the costs being passed on to the consumer. Can you name any business or any costs or any purchase you make where the cost is not passed on to the consumer?

SENATOR COPE: Certainly not. That is why one can remain in business. It has to be.