

April 6, 1979

LB 80

explain the bill.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you. Although this looks like a very long bill, it has taken a number of sections of statutes. It's changed where it would say, the Mayor and Councilmen, it would be changed to say, the Mayor and Councilmembers, because there are a number of women Councilmembers as you are aware across the State of Nebraska. It changes policeman to police officer. When the original statutes were written, there were only male police officers. Now there are male and female police officers. It changes widow to surviving spouse, because sometimes the surviving spouse of the police officer could very well be a male, not just a widow. Rather than putting widow and widower it seems much simpler and more to the point to say surviving spouse. It changes fireman to fire fighter. This is a bill which came from an interim study committee. This is a bill which has had strong support by women's groups across the state of Nebraska. It has had input from a number of concerned citizens. It has had the lengthy amendments coming from the facts that County Attorneys across the state would write in and say, you missed this section of the statute in your bill. This is one more place where you need to change that councilman to council member, or a council member from across the state out in Scottsbluff wrote to say, I missed another section of the law when I was going through it and having it drafted. So far as we know we have incorporated in our statutes the corrective language which gives dignity to men and women as they serve our state in their various occupations. This bill was introduced by me, but it has had the work of hundreds of people across the state. It never could be called my bill, because of the work done by so many other persons on this piece of legislation. Unless there are some specific questions, I urge the advancement of LB 80 to Enrollment and Review.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, I have several questions of Senator Marsh, if she will yield.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: Senator Marsh, will you respond?

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: I see no fiscal impact in our book...

SENATOR MARSH: No, sir.