

March 22, 1983

LB 43

PRESIDENT: Very well, without objection we will....Senator Newell. We will lay the bill over temporarily until we come to it again after maybe LB 43. Very well, proceed now with LB 43. Mr. Clerk. Senator Hoagland or Senator Nichol are not in the Chamber. I see it is Senator Hoagland's bill. Very well. Okay.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 43 was offered by Senators Hoagland and Nichol. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 6, referred to the Government Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. The committee amendments were adopted on March 21st, yesterday.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President, I would prefer to have Senator Hoagland do this inasmuch as he has just walked in and inasmuch as I was not in on the working out of those amendments, so if he would do that I would appreciate it.

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Hoagland, we are ready for your masterful presentation.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Sounds like there has been quite a buildup, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, about this. Actually I was hoping Senator Landis would be here to present these amendments that Senator Landis was so helpful in orchestrating over the last three days. I am asking a Page to pass them out right now, and as I explained when we adopted the committee amendments yesterday morning when we first discussed this bill on General File, we have been having a series of meetings beginning Friday morning in order to try and resolve the differences between the sponsors of the bill, the proponents of the bill, representatives of various media organizations around the state, and some of the people that had difficulty with it particularly the Nebraska League of Municipalities, NPPD, the Nebraska Hospital Association and others. Now, thanks to Senator Landis' efforts and a series of meetings, including Walt Radcliffe and Lyn Rex, why we have managed to put together a compromise which I think is now acceptable pretty much to everyone. Now, basically these amendments, and let me explain, let me take over Senator Landis' job in explaining what these amendments to the committee amendments do, are basically to make two important changes. The first is to add another criteria... criterion by which public bodies can close their meetings and those are set out on lines 8 through 11 of the handout, and that is that among the things that are characteristic of the reasons by which a public body can go into closed session is the...and I am quoting now, "the evaluation of