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SENATOR HASEBROCK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am going to be brief. I rise in support of the amendment. I think it's reasonable. I think that it's a minimum that they can give. I don't think they have..I think the firemen are entitled to it and in most cases it is very difficult to get volunteer firemen. I think they need some extra incentive to serve as volunteer firemen. They are doing a great service and I'm sure that this would be an added benefit.

SPEAKER: The chair next recognizes Senator Barnett, then Senator Duis.. Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I will stand on the floor here and defend volunteer firemen until the day I stop standing on the floor because they probably do one of the greatest services to a community of anyone I know. No matter what time of the night or day, they go out and help their fellowman at absolutely no pay whatsoever and expose themselves to all types of danger and I think that by giving them all of the benefits that we possibly can in the way of accident or life insurance for the return for that duty which they perform voluntarily we should do that in this Legislature. And if the cities will not do it, I think we should instruct them to do so because they are the direct beneficiaries of the Volunteer Fire Department, one of the greatest organizations in the state of Nebraska

SPEAKER: We have before us the Skarda amendment. Are there.. is there any further discussion of the Skarda amendment? The question is shall the amendment be adopted. All those in favor vote aye, all..Senator Kelly, did you wish to be recognized? Your light is still on. Senator Duis. OK. Thank you. Now, is there any further discussion of the Skarda amendment? Senator Marsh. Will the clerk please read the amendment?

CLERK: Read.

SPEAKER: That's the amendment. The question is shall the amendment be adopted. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? The clerk will record.

CLERK: 22 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, there is another amendment pending. Read.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President and members of the body, I voted for this \$5,000 figure. Now, I think that is a good figure but I would wonder if these firemen want life insurance benefits for any cause of death not connected with duty and in fact whether they wouldn't be happy to have insurance for death in the line of duty. In fact, if they were limited to this, perhaps, we should make it \$10,000 or \$20,000. I think what we ought to do is give them good benefit for any danger they suffer in their work, be it \$10,000, \$50,000 or \$100,000. I wonder really if they would want a benefit for death from any cause and I think this would be quite a precedent for many other employees of the state.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Marsh. We have before us the Stahmer amendment to LB 249.

SENATOR MARSH: The firemen would not be benefiting from this, I would like to point out. It only would be the families of the firemen who would be benefiting.