

February 21, 1973

SENATOR KIME: Mr. Chairman, and members of this body, I have had several letters from small towns in my area, and I have several, of a good many small towns. They have small fire departments of course, and they have spent their money for equipment, fire fighting equipment and trucks and things like that, and they are in debt now. They, I think that this bill is permissive, I think the way it is now, it's permissive, and I would suggest that perhaps that this be passed as it is, with this amendment and maybe in a year or two you can raise it up to five thousand or ten thousand or whatever you want. We have hundreds of people out there that fight these fires they're not even on any fire department, they just, if a range fire gets started they just come in by the hundreds, and fight this fire, till they get it out, there is no coverage unless they have some fire insurance themselves. I would like to see this passed as it is for the present time at least. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Fred Carstens, he passes, Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow members, I don't think as far as I know any of our volunteer firemen have asked for this, I have heard, I don't know whether it is true or not, that it's the full time paid firemen that's pushing this and really you know, this is a sort of a do gooder bill, which in our small towns, I don't think our folks really want it. I support the Wiltse amendment, I think it's good common horse sense and I think it's what we should do.

SPEAKER: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President I wonder if Senator Nore would yield to a question?

SENATOR NORE: Yeah, surely, always.

SENATOR BARNETT: Did you read the bill?

SENATOR NORE: Yes.

SENATOR BARNETT: How can you possibly say it's for a paid department?

SENATOR NORE: Well, that's, I didn't say it was in the bill -

SENATOR BARNETT: That's exactly what you said.

SENATOR NORE: I've been told that it was, that it was, it was, being promoted by some of your folks.

SENATOR BARNETT: Thank you, we'll take the credit for it, these volunteer firemen deserve it.

SPEAKER: Did you wish to speak, Senator Skarda?

SENATOR SKARDA: I was undecided and I punched two or three times, but everytime I was hesitant and reluctant to get up but after I heard some of the remarks I just can't sit in my seat and listen to Senator Nore pop off about the paid firemen for the cause of this bill because it's as far from the truth. You know I just can't sit here and realize or understand how cheap or chintzy we can get. Here are some people who are doing a service to keep the insurance rates down, that's purposely why it was created, and we want to deny them some insurance, it's just fantastic and unbelievable to me, I can't understand the feelings of some members of this body.

SPEAKER: Senator Maresh.