

(Start of Belt #8)

this forces the people, forces the workers to pay to the union whether they are members of the union or not and a good many of the people in this state, at least, don't like to be forced to do something like that when they are not members of the union. In testimony, it was brought out that most of these people who are non-union workers are short-time workers, not the regular steady employees that they have but the short-time workers that might come and go. This bill has been tried year after year and I think the ruling of the Committee down there should stand.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the body, I would rise to endorse Senator Chambers' concept of the Committee system and I think we do very often change our concept of the Committee system based on the issue. In my.. I believe in strong Committee system and I don't believe in overruling the actions of the Committee in the normal case, but this is not an issue that is in the normal course. Certainly on the Labor Committee, I think we have killed a substantial number of bills and all but this one, I would certainly opposing raising any of those bills because I don't think they are substantial issues of policy in this state and they don't have a substantial impact on a substantial number of people. This bill does and for that reason it's the type of issue that the whole body is entitled to consider and, in fact, has an obligation to consider and the Committee system, as I see it, purpose is to delineate and to ferret out those bills which are of little significance or little value or no value and those are the bills to be killed in Committee and bills of substantial interest, whether we agree with them individually or not, should be passed to the floor and the whole body should have the opportunity to pass judgment on those bills. I think the hearing that was granted LB 96 was certainly a fair hearing. We heard voluminous testimony from both sides and I think that the Committee members, for the most part, conducted themselves fairly and impartially as possible, but the fact remains that it is an issue that affects a great number of people. My file on LB 96 from mail that I have received and response that I have received from the public is almost as large as my file on the ERA. Now, for example, the ERA, if that bill were to be killed in Committee, I would...and I oppose Senator Proud's Resolution on the ERA, but I would certainly vote to bring that issue to the floor of the Legislature. It is an issue in which a substantial number of people in the state of Nebraska have expressed a view that they want a full hearing on the thing and the...this entire body has a responsibility to grant them that hearing and to take a position on it and I think that it's a similar situation with LB 96.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. President, members of the body, I hardly know where to start here this morning. We are talking about everything but the bill at times, for the most part. At any rate, I would request of those who have spoken before me that they also remind or be reminded that we are here as 49 representatives and that on every given day that we are in session several issues come before us in one form or another and how often do we see the majority, maybe not the majority but a near majority sometimes, laying in the weeds on an issue. They've got the right to push the button, but they don't do it. I would only say that if we are going to make everything compulsory that I might preface these remarks by saying that I come from a labor district, to say the least, and I don't think I'm anti-labor. At the same time, I think that we should all stand up and be counted and I'm not afraid to be counted at any time. I would only say that if we are going to make this mandatory, if we are going to continue to have