

February 26, 1973

SENATOR R. LEWIS: But I would, I would like to oppose the amendment and the bill. I really don't feel that there is a need for this particular legislation and I would like to ask if Senator Lewis would yield to some questions.

SPEAKER: Senator Lewis, will you yield?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I'll attempt to.

SPEAKER: O.K.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Thank you. Do you have a real comprehensive study of the areas in Nebraska that aren't covered by electrical inspections now?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: What I have, Senator Lewis, is the cities that are currently providing electrical inspection and, of course, this was ascertained because a portion of the State Electrical Board's funds used to go to those cities to provide for the electrical services so I have a list here of probably 4 or 5 pages of cities that are currently covered by the inspection bill.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: And they are currently covered then?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Yes.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: It's, the brief experience that I have had with this, the areas within my district have a licensing system of their own. They license the electricians who work within this area and they have, they observe the code closely and I don't feel that there is any particular need for this bill. I think we made a mistake perhaps when we set up the licensing fee at the level we did. It has accumulated a, quite a substantial sum of money and I might propose a motion that would return this to the general file.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well, in response to specific questions asked by the other Senator Lewis, I would say this, that there are areas of the State not currently covered, not currently being inspected after the final installation where, that the licenses are granted, yet there is no inspection work of the licensee and I think that that is a serious situation if you'd look at the list and I'll certainly provide it for you, of the types of facilities that are being built without electrical inspection by the State Inspection Board. Churches, medical clinics, high schools, rental housing, fire stations, county hospitals, junior-senior high schools, nursing homes, churches, elementary schools and, of course, I think this is what we're looking for is if the safety factor is involved. The money is there. We've got \$180,000 to help provide safe electrical inspections and I certainly think with the money available, the mechanism available to do it and with this evidence of showing where that we haven't had proper inspections, I certainly think that this bill should be adopted.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Nore. Excuse me, Senator Richard Lewis, did you have other questions?

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Yes, I do.

SPEAKER: Go ahead.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: I would like to, if Senator Lewis will yield--

SPEAKER: Maybe the Chair should observe, Senator Lewis, that we have Senator Nore, Kime, Maresh, Murphy and Rasmussen, have all asked to speak on this, apparently, bill also, or the amendments here, the committee amendments and we do have a motion to adjourn. I don't know where would be the convenient time to saw this off, but maybe this would be the time.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: I agree.