

April 12, 1979

The Clerk will read LB 462.

CLERK: Engross Legislative Bill 462. Introduced by Senator Dickinson of the 31st district. (read).

SPEAKER: Senator Stromer.

SENATOR STROMER: Mr. President and fellow Members. I checked with Senator Burbach before he left because I had this amendment at that time. It was agreeable with him, it was the intention to include this language in the amendments as they were made in committee. Now it was not included so therefore, I am asking now to return it to select file to include it at this time. Senator Burbach did not object to this amendment.

SPEAKER: Is there any discussion of this request to return LB 17, is it, Senator Stromer, to select file for specific amendment? Is there any discussion? All those in favor of returning the bill to select file vote aye. Those opposed vote no. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, Mr. President, on motion to return.

SPEAKER: Motion carries, the bill is on select file, Senator Stromer.

SENATOR STROMER: I would then move the amendment as read by the Clerk which is just to eliminate the meters used measuring natural gas by the gas utilities.

SPEAKER: Is there any discussion of this? Senator Carpenter?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Why do they want to do that?

SENATOR STROMER: At the present time they already have their own measuring devices on them. If this were to be included in this particular bill, it would include a tremendous dollar amount as far as the State and the Agriculture Department in providing or running a check on--

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now you're saying this would apply to every gas meter in the household?

SENATOR STROMER: Only for natural gas.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, that's, only for natural gas?

SENATOR STROMER: Yes, yes.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well what protection do the people have that the meters are correct?

SENATOR STROMER: Well at the present time the protection they have are the tests that are run on them at the present time that the gas company already has.

SENATOR CARPENTER: In other words, this amendment we'll be completely dependent upon the gas company as to the accuracy of all the meters?

SENATOR STROMER: Actually, the amendment would leave it just as it is now.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well it seems to me, Mr. President that because of the increase in the cost of natural gas which is going up by leaps and bounds, by obvious reasons, that somewhere along the line this State ought to take some precaution to establish within the area of the gas companies who approve and check these