

April 12, 1973

(Begin Belt #13)

for words we might speak during the hearing of the regular committee and standing and special committee meetings. And the first committee amendment merely inserts a word upon the recommendation of--you'll have to read it and I'll have Senator Mahoney explain it to you. It was introduced on, on, on the recommendation of the Executive Board and referred to the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee.

SPEAKER: Is Senator Mahoney here?

SENATOR WALDRON: Or Senator Carpenter can probably do it.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, this bill was inherited by myself as chairman of the Executive Board and the Attorney General of the State of Nebraska one day alerted some Senators, particularly the Board, that we did not have the protection against liable except when we are in regular session in this room or this building. What this bill does in part, it protects anyone from a liable action, whether they are in the building or whether they are in the area of a special interim study or wherever they are. Now sometimes people say things they don't mean and they can be interpreted to some extent and you may some day have to prove them and be confronted by a liable action. It seems to me that the least this body can do is to protect itself from such type of action. The other thing it does, it sets up and gives the Board the right as they have been exercising, it says a Board shall have the authority to employ and fix a salary for such personnel as may be needed to carry out the intent and the activities of the Legislature or of the Board. Now we've been doing that this year but periodically as I did about a week or ten days ago, I filed in the Clerk's office and called it to your attention all of the raises we had authorized an Executive Board. Now the other thing it does, it carries on--I don't think it expands the authority you now have in the area of allowing the Executive Board to carry out functions such as investigating of any area which it may decide is in the public interest. That's what is in the to some extent in the stricken matter. I don't think it enlarges that at all beyond what now exists, but we did add into that section the area of there being an exemption from liable. Now I think this is a highly important bill--it may not seem so. Now any time that you want to you can take away from the Executive Board anything that we think you've given us to assume the responsibility for by simply passing by motion or telling us what you want us to do. We only expedite these things because in a collective sense the Board as a whole--most of the time we're unanimous, not always but most of the time, we are not much in disagreement on anything. So I move for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER: Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, are we under the ground rules that an objection means we lay this over?

SPEAKER: Yes.

SENATOR SNYDER: Well, I've got to object to two parts of 485. As far as I'm concerned we can take it up today but I'm definitely going to object to part of the bill.

SPEAKER: Well, we have an objection, we'll pass to the next bill. LB 490. Nope, we'll lay it over. We're supposed to be on noncontroversial bills. If anybody objects, we pass on to the next one until you want to change the procedure. LB 490 is by the Public Works Committee. Clerk will read.