

All those in favor say aye, those opposed say no. Committee amendment is adopted.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now Mr. President, I would rather discuss the bill as amended by the committee. Then I have two amendments which I would like to discuss after that.

PRESIDENT: Fine, go ahead.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I don't know how many members realize or understand the condition that the National Guard is in. They are having a lot of difficulty in getting their recruits up to strength and I don't know how many people realize that the Nebraska National Guard, if the Guard is called up by the Federal Government, for whatever the purpose might be internally or externally, if and when that happens they take everything out except the armory. They have nothing left. No equipment no uniform nothing except the bare building, as I understand it. Now in days when this country is plagued with self evident conditions in which no one knows for sure what is going to happen tomorrow, it seems to me that we must do a number of things. Number one which is not in this bill, but to establish what is the home guard or the national guard without the national, in which we will finance then to the extent of which I have an amendment on 779, which is another subject but it all fits in. This state can not afford in my judgment to be left as it now is in so far as the defense is concerned and only have the police and the highway patrol. Normally that would be enough but as I can see things, and I only predict I don't advocate that might not be enough. What the original bill does, number one, it exempts members for example of the police and the fire the judges and the justices and the hospital assistants and things of that nature from becoming members of the national guard in the event that you have to recruit people yes they will. Number two it provides for the availability of the National Guard during a disaster which I presume would be a disaster determined by the Chief Executive of the state of Nebraska. Number three a change of the name of the Adjutant General Department to the Military Department which is only a change in name. It changes the ranks of the Adjutant General and the Assistant for the Air National Guard. It revises them to a different grade than they now are. To provide for the salary of the Adjutant General as the Governor shall direct. That I presume would put them in the same category as every other department head of state Government his salary can be whatever the state the Governor wants to make it unless the Legislature wants to do it itself. Number seven to provide for qualification of assistance to the adjutant General and to change the procedure of benefits due to death and injury while on active duty. These are all nominal things which have been, let me say that a couple of years when I happen to be the Chairman of the Government Military Affairs Committee, the committee was good enough to make a study and debt of the needs of the national guard and in relationship to what I am talking about. They haven't made too much progress in there necessarily because the money has never been available by this body and I presume to some extent that it has never been recommended by the Governor by the state of Nebraska. Now these are really departmental functions which should be done, and they really don't mean much from the standpoint of dollars except a change in grade and things of that nature which is peculiar to the military department. Now I have two other amendments which are in a little different category. Which is the reason I want to explain the bill as it is first, and I will explain these