

March 27, 1979

LB 234

On Page 19, line 12, after the word "duty" insert "except an employer may reduce the pay of an employee by an amount equal to any salary other than expenses paid by the court for jury duty". (Page 1107 of the Journal.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, this amendment would merely state that the person serving on the jury would not be paid double. They would not be paid by their regular employee plus the money they receive as salary for serving as a juror. The employer, if he chose could reduce the pay of an employee by the amount of salary, which the employee received for serving on the jury. I move the adoption.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion on the Lamb amendment to LB 234? The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh and then Senator Stoney in that order. Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: I have an inquiry and I do not know to whom to address this. Perhaps one of the members of the legal association...perhaps Senator Vard Johnson might be willing to answer my question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vard Johnson, would you like to respond?

SENATOR MARSH: Is it possible that there could be additional expenses when someone is serving on a jury, and that there really would be a need to have the small jury fee, which is not an astronomical sum as I understand it?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Oh, of course, Senator Marsh, yes there certainly are additional expenses when a person serves on a jury. I think that by and large there are more women jurors than men jurors, and of the women jurors many of those are homemakers. They have children at home, and when they do serve on juries, they may well have to retain a person to come into the home to care for their children, their pre-school children. That is certainly an expense that can be incurred. Obviously, a juror...well, that's the biggest one that I can think of offhand, Senator Marsh, is the fact that people do have out of pocket expenses in serving on a jury, and that's a very classic instance of an out of pocket expense.

SENATOR MARSH: In fact, a woman could be employed on a night job where her husband would take care of the children if she were gone during the night, but when she would be