

April 11, 1979

LB 581

Senator Brennan, will you answer a question?

SENATOR BRENNAN: If it's...sure.

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Brennan, would you say...

SENATOR BRENNAN: If it is understood that I had nothing to do with this bill, yes.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes, that is understood, yes. Would you say that this bill possibly would encourage a company to hire illegal aliens knowing that he would never have to pay unemployment compensation because of them?

SENATOR BRENNAN: No, the question is what kind of proof do they have to show that they are aliens or not aliens.

SENATOR KEYES: As far as I am concerned, I don't know of any.

SENATOR BRENNAN: As I understand it, the Labor Department is going to ask them, are you an alien. They are going to ask everybody that. If they didn't ask that to everybody they would be charged with discrimination and as I understand this bill there is no proof required that you are or you are not so I would say the bill doesn't do anything.

SENATOR KEYES: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I just want to correct a statement that Senator Keyes made. I believe, Senator Keyes, that you said the employers did not have to hold out unemployment compensation for aliens if they hired them. Is that right?

SENATOR KEYES: No, Senator Hefner, I said they will withhold and then knowing that those people because they are illegal aliens will not be eligible to draw, therefore, it would be to their advantage to hire them knowing that their rate will be lower because they are employees that they lay off or quit or whatever it is. They are not entitled to draw their unemployment.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, I apologize to you. I thought you said that they wouldn't withhold or wouldn't pay unemployment compensation. Okay. Thank you.