

January 15, 1980

LB 203

these two entities agree with one another but they do on this instance and so basically this is a clean up bill. It is to eliminate outdated language and it would improve the information gathering functions of the Public Service Commission concerning railroad safety problems. I will answer any questions if I can and I would appreciate your support for the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes, do you wish the floor?

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Wesely, I would like to ask you one question. All this is going to do is take care of a matter after the fact. In other words, there will be nothing that will come to improve the quality of the railroad before an accident happens. Is that right?

SENATOR WESELY: The information will come after the fact. We are hoping the information will then be used by the Public Service Commission and the Roads Department to take the necessary steps to improve safety on the railroads.

SENATOR KEYES: On the line...all across...

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR KEYES: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, a question of Senator Wesely, please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Wesely, I see in the amendment in 75-426 that personal injury and loss of life to railroad employees are excluded. Can you advise why they are excluded? Are they covered elsewhere?

SENATOR WESELY: That was a point of controversy in the committee and I am not even certain if that is a wise exclusion. I would not be opposing reinserting that section. I am not sure exactly why that was eliminated other than they felt that the above new language dealt with that problem and the other broader questions that they would want to have information about, but if you want to specifically mention that instance, we could add that back in, but I think above, it generally does speak to those sort of injuries.