

February 3, 1981

LB 29

SENATOR HEFNER: You feel then we should leave this last sentence in?

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, yes, I do unless you want another bill or go back for another hearing because we are speaking and this bill is narrowed down to the cancer producing qualities that asbestos has and nothing else.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you, Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of LB 29 as amended. All those in favor vote aye, excuse me. Senator Fitzgerald, do you wish to close.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: I was just looking at the audience, Mr. Speaker. I will have just a short closing. First of all, I would like to say that we have no manufacturers whatsoever that manufactures asbestos in the State of Nebraska. So nobody locally here would ever be sued. Quite a few of the fellows that are asbestos coverers live in my district. This is why I took the bill last year and this year and this here is basically an amendment to the present products liability law so that a worker who has been harmed by a dangerous product, such as asbestos, will be able to have his day in court if he files a lawsuit within four years after he discovers he has been injured by the product. The problem with the current law is that many workers who have dealt with asbestos will not know for twenty years or more whether they have been harmed and under the current law they would not be able to do anything about it because of the ten year limitation. The point I would like to emphasize to you is that this mandates nothing, this law, that all it does is gives the worker a day in court and he has to prove that asbestos was the cause of him having cancer. I thank you and I hope you advance this over to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the bill is advanced. Senator Fitzgerald, do you and Senator Haberman have a guest you wish to introduce? You don't have one.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: I see him back here, Senator, but I wouldn't put him in the category of a guest because I think he is one of us, and a guest to me is a person that comes