

February 4, 1981

LB 20

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Cullian, this body passed a bill, I believe it was two years ago, which allowed officers to opt out of Workmen's Comp, officers of a corporation. This does not change that part of it, except it facilitates the officers of a newly formed corporation to opt out of Workmen's Comp. Under the current law, they can only opt out during the month of December. So if you...for instance, if you formed a corporation in July, then under the law the officers would have to be covered by Workmen's Comp from that July until December because December was the only month when they could opt out of the program. So that really does not make that much sense. There is not much reason to force those corporate officers to be covered since they can opt out the following December. So the intent and thrust of this bill is merely to allow those corporate officers to opt out from day one and never be covered. And Senator Maresh's amendment which was suggested by Judge Novicoff is merely... well, it is language which eliminates some of the language that is duplicative in the bill and it doesn't really change that at all. It doesn't change the intent or what the bill does.

SENATOR CULLAN: Thank you, Senator Lamb, I appreciate very much your explanation of the bill. Since it doesn't affect the rights of an individual who would be an employee of the corporation, I certainly see no problem with it and I appreciate your taking the time and courtesy to explain it again for those of us who are a little slow today. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any further discussion on the Maresh amendment? If not, the motion is to adopt the Maresh amendment. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of Senator Maresh's amendment, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The motion passed. The amendment is adopted. Senator Lamb, what do you wish to do with the bill?

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. Chairman, I move that the bill be advanced.