

April 7, 1981

LB 328

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 328 was introduced by Senators Loran Schmit and Carole Pirsch (Read title to LB 328). The bill was first read on January 19th, referred to Judiciary. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit. Senator Nichol, do you wish to handle the committee amendments?

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature. The Judiciary Committee considered an amendment which is offered by Senator Schmit which is essentially a technical amendment which would further clarify the intent of the bill. The amendment makes clear that the authority to appoint additional personnel enumerating their duties is to be exercised by the Executive Director of the Crime Commission and not by the Crime Victims Reparation Board. This was an oversight in the original bill and should be added so that the language in the bill is not ambiguous. I move for the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Okay, record Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. Senator Pirsch, do you wish to explain the bill?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Yes, thank you Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. The purpose of LB 328 is to place administrative and budgetary control of the Crime Victims Reparation Board with the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. The Crime Victims Reparation Board is currently an independent board and has no other agency to rely on for administrative and budgetary support. What benefit would there be in transferring the Victims Board to the Commission? There are presently 1 1/2 people working on the Victims Board and as claim activity increases there would not have to be an increase in their personnel if we do put it with this supplementary staff. The Commission's present staff could support Victims Board staff in budget preparation, payment of claims, personnel in claims, record keeping, including entering information and records on the commission's computer. The present statute requires that the Victim Board promote the existence of programs to persons throughout the state. The Commission has an excellent