

May 1, 1981

LB 472

E and R Initial. The next bill on the consent calendar is LB 472.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 472 offered by Senator Peter Hoagland. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 30, referred to the Education Committee. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I do have an amendment from Senator Hoagland pending that is found on page 1673 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: All right. The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland speaking to the Hoagland amendment.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, let me first describe in a sentence what the bill does. The bill continues the authority that the State Board of Education has to purchase liability insurance for the Commissioner of Education and members of the State Board, to protect them in the event that they are sued for actions taken in the official line of business. Now the amendment that I am offering would also permit the judicial branch to purchase liability insurance for judges and court employees so that if they are sued pursuant to an official action taken, why they can be then covered by insurance if the judiciary decides to purchase liability insurance for them. Now the reason for this amendment is that there presently is a court employee, and I believe it is an associate county judge but I am not sure of that, who is currently being sued for actions that that particular person took as part of his or her official responsibilities, and there is currently a question now as to whether that person is going to be defended by the Attorney General's office. Now what this amendment would do is it would authorize the judiciary if it wishes to purchase liability insurance to cover the judges and cover court employees in that kind of a situation. The underlying bill authorizes the Department of Education to purchase liability insurance to protect employees and the Commissioner and members of the State Board of Education. So I would ask your adoption of the amendment and advancement of the bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on the Hoagland amendment to LB 472? Senator Hoagland, that will be your closing and the motion before the House is the adoption of the Hoagland amendment to LB 472. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the Hoagland amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. The Hoagland amendment is adopted.