

February 23, 1982

LB 801

amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried, the committee amendments are adopted. Senator Barrett, do you wish to explain the.....?

SENATOR BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, the provisions of LB 801 as amended reflect some changes which are needed in the unemployment security law which result in the passage of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act which I believe was signed by the President in August of last year. The Congressional action which was taken at that time made several significant changes in the unemployment compensation program at the federal level which necessitate the changes at the state level. And, basically, the extended benefit provisions will actually be tightened under the bill. So it is necessary to ensure that the Nebraska Employment Security law meets federal requirements thereby continuing approval of our law by the United States Secretary of Labor. It is my understanding that if the requirements are not met in the bill, the Secretary of Labor can withhold the tax credit which is now given to employers on their federal unemployment taxes and may also withhold funds from the state for the administration of employment security program in Nebraska. So I would move that the bill be advanced to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, for any of you that might have taken the trouble to look, you will notice that I was the only member of the committee that voted no on this particular bill. I need to clarify my position just a little bit. First of all, I waited until I made sure there were enough votes in the committee to advance this bill because the bill probably does need to pass, because if it doesn't the State of Nebraska as Senator Barrett indicated stands to lose some funds. We do have to be in conformity with the federal government. It is just a philosophical problem I have with our strings being pulled in some areas that I just think is basically wrong and basically unworkable. If you will look at the bill, you will notice that on pages 22 and 23 it outlines the procedure whereby people are supposed to be asked