

March 3, 1982

LB 259

PRESIDENT: Alright, we'll proceed then with the next bill, on General File, LB 259.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 259 has been introduced by Senators Newell, Wesely, Fowler, Labedz, Kilgarin, Wiitala, DeCamp, Hoagland and Koch. (Read.) The bill was read on January 16 of last year, Mr. President. At that time it was referred to the Education Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Education Committee, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch for purposes of discussing the committee amendments.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body, I would like to make certain that Senator Beutler's name is included as a cosponsor and that was oversight and what I would like for us to do right now is to adopt Req. #2607. There are two white copies in your book, 2607 and 2514. 2607 is the committee amendments which are technical in nature and the body of the proposed law is still intact. With that, I move for the adoption of the technical amendments under Req. #2607, bill #259.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, there is an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Goll would move to amend Req. #2607.

PRESIDENT: Senator Goll, alright.

SENATOR GOLL: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, you have on your desk a copy of an amendment to LB 259. In the interest of brevity I would say first of all that my amendment has no fiscal impact and essentially consists of two words. I am changing the teacher tenure period which in this point in time is two years for all class schools except those in Lincoln and Omaha to make it three years across the line for all class school districts, one, two, three, four, five and six. I have received communications from many schools across the state as, more particularly those in my district, and they tell me this. Most schools do a good job of evaluating personnel. An extra year would certainly give us an opportunity to work with a teacher who is marginal to give them the necessary help to improve their skills. I have another letter. Beginning teachers will often change significantly after the first year. Extra years will provide sufficient time to conduct a more thorough evaluation. What we really are doing when we change the teacher tenure probationary period, a two year consists of a nine plus five or fourteen to fifteen months. A three year period gives the