

March 8, 1982

LR 231

PRESIDENT: The motion carries and the report of the Business and Labor Committee is approved. Next we have LR 231, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 231 offered by Senator Rumery. It is found on page 911 of the Legislative Journal. (Read LR 231.) Offered by Senator Rumery, Mr. President, and found on page 911 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is one of those noncontroversial issues that I don't believe you will have any trouble voting for. It simply urges people to make an extra effort to hire older citizens, and some of them do want to work and we ought to give them a chance to do so when they want to. I move the adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President and Senators, I rise to support this resolution but I also rise to make a statement about an article that appeared in the Omaha World Herald last week under another point of view. It was written by C. Bruce Davis who is Chairman of the Commission on Aging and in it he urged that the elderly be used to work for a minimum wage. And when I think of the elderly I am thinking of people 60, 65 and 70, the most experienced people we have, and Bruce Davis saying, they are only worth the minimum wage. So I just want to get it entered in the record that the Commissioner...the Chairman of the Commission on Aging thinks so little of senior citizens that they should not be paid more than the minimum wage. In fact, he is recommending use them more for volunteer work than anything. But I rise to support this bill or this resolution, and I also do it with the understanding that when we say, hire the elderly, let's do it at a fair wage, not a minimum wage. Thank you, Senators.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on LR 231? Senator Rumery, do you have any closing? There is no further discussion. Do you waive closing, Senator Rumery? Closing is waived, so the question is the adoption of LR 231. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 42 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 231.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries and LR 231 is adopted. Ready for LR 233, Mr. Clerk.