

March 15, 1982

LB 611

affect a road to anyone's home or any business. It would only be those roads that are field roads generally classified as field roads. It would not affect mail route, bus route or anything like that. It cannot be done without the approval from the state, the Highway Department, and if that didn't work, from the Department of Standards, so I think it is a very necessary thing due to our economy that we approve this. It is foolish to spend money on those roads that are only used by farmers to go to the fields and we have a number of them now in my area where they blade them down in the fall for harvest and perhaps in the spring after the thaw and they are pretty well used for field roads after that. Some of the bridges, of course, will have to be taken out because they are not safe and some of those draws and sloughs and creeks can probably be forded at some time during the year if rock is put down in the bottom of them. It would be much safer than that old rickety bridge. So I move for the passage or movement of 611 to E & R Initial.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely, you have four minutes left.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, hearing this bill there was a lot of discussion about, questions about the signs and protecting the public when we reduce roads to minimum maintenance. I think the intent is proper and I think it will serve a purpose. There are some concerns still about safety of individuals and the liability involved and I think that there is an amendment being proposed I think you ought to be aware of...I don't know if Senator Kahle is going to offer it or not...which will clarify the liability question so I won't oppose the bill at this time and would ask you to please keep that in mind as one concern. When the bill was introduced and heard there was some questions about the fact that if a bridge went out or was left by lack of maintenance so it would be basically just a small sign or something telling you not to go over that bridge, and I thought we had to do a little more. I think the amendments from the committee make it clear that that will be barricaded and protected so the bill with the committee amendments is a much better bill and I think will serve a good purpose. I would just ask the liability question be addressed by Senator Kahle and I think it will be good legislation at that point.

SENATOR CLARK: Time is up on the bill. We have two more speakers, Senator Vickers and Senator Kremer. Did you both want to speak? If you do, we will just have to pass over the bill? All right, we will pass over the bill. Senator Stoney, would you like to recess after we read some things in or adjourn us until tomorrow morning.

8886