

February 4, 1985

LB 81

of this year, referred to the Public Works Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, the intent of LB 81 is to allow railroad transportation safety districts to continue their existence to 26 years from the date of their creation. Under present law the districts must terminate 15 years from their creation. The district's authority to issue bonds is similarly extended by the bill from 10 years to 25 years. This primarily is important to Lincoln and Lancaster County, but there are three other districts, Scotts Bluff-Gering, Hastings and Norfolk. Since Lincoln was chosen as a pilot study project area by the federal government, much has been accomplished to remove rail highway grade crossing conflicts. A great deal of credit should go to Mr. Howard Gunderson who is the Executive Director here in Lancaster-Lincoln. They need more time to accomplish what has already been started. You'd be interested to know, and some of you may already have found it out as you are traveling our streets, the North 27th Street viaduct, over the northeast rail corridor, is anticipated to be completed in 1985, or early in '86 if we have adverse weather. The overpass at Coddington Avenue, and the extensions of K and L Streets are all in the proposed or started stage. I urge your advancement of LB 81.

PRESIDENT: Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this bill and to congratulate the district on the good works that have been done and to urge the members of this body to vote for this move to extend the life of this worthwhile district. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: I guess then we are ready for the motion to advance the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. We are voting on the advancement of LB 81. Please record your vote on the advancement, to E & R, of LB 81 as