

May 22, 1985

LB 556

LB 556 after our full debate on it. And we only have one hour. There are no committee amendments. There are no amendments, but I assure you that by the time...and when it is on Select File I will determine at that time or maybe the Legislature themselves will determine whether or not the increase that I am asking for should be decreased. But right now I will give you the reasons why I think LB 556 should be advanced and it will come up, I am sure, after the budget...

PRESIDENT: Senator Labedz, I'm informed that we cannot hear you in the back of the Chamber.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) May we have order in the Chamber, please. In the back of the Chamber, underneath the north balcony, keep the conversational level down so that this very limited timed debate, may we proceed fairly. Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President, I hope my hour is starting right now.

PRESIDENT: It is starting right now.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you. LB 556 as many of you know is my priority bill this session and it's intended to keep strong a commitment to the State of Nebraska made to our disabled and our war time veterans and our low income senior citizens, a commitment made almost a decade ago that would allow those who have given so much to Nebraska to live their remaining years with dignity within their own home, a home that they dreamed of having in their youth and a home, and I might add this, that they have paid taxes on in some cases 50 to 60 years and they have done their share and now are on a fixed income and unable in a lot of cases to maintain their home. They are a very proud group of people. They don't take handouts from the government. They don't want food stamps. They don't want welfare. They don't even want energy assistance. They will turn to those only if they need them and I have seen and talked to many of these people that don't want to move out of their homes. They don't want to move in with their children. They want to stay there their remaining years of their life and it is going to be very difficult I know for many of you to support this bill,