

it took a provision out of another part of the bill which made the bill weaker. So Senator DeCamp has graciously agreed to bracket the bill until next year, at which time I will clean up my error and we will have a stronger Section 8140. Meanwhile, you will have the same Section 8140 which has nothing deficient in it, only that Senator DeCamp was making it a stronger provision and I have successfully kept him from doing that inadvertently. My apologies, Senator DeCamp.

PRESIDENT: Is there discussion? If not, the motion is to bracket LB 451 until the second session of this Legislature. Do you want to take a vote on it, Senator, or can we just lay it over?

SENATOR BEUTLER: If Senator DeCamp would just wish to pass over it, that would probably be easier. I'll withdraw the bracketing motion and request that it just be passed over.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Automatically the bill will lie in wait. LB 608.

CLERK: Mr. President, on 608 I have a motion from Senator Hefner to return the bill, Mr. President. (Read Hefner amendment found on page 2686 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Elroy Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I would hope that you would vote to return this bill so that we could amend it, strike 225 and add 210. This would be for benefits to those that are injured on the job per week. It would reduce the increase from 12.5 percent down to 5 percent which, I feel, is a more realistic figure. If we pass this bill, premiums on workmen's compensation insurance will go up. I say that now is not the time to raise the workmen's comp benefits by a huge 12.5 percent. Small businessmen and employers are experiencing difficult economic times. This is true especially in the rural areas. I've also talked to some rural hospital administrators that are having problems. They are concerned if we increase the benefits of this, Their premiums will go up and it could be the straw that breaks the camel's back. Now from time to time in our daily newspapers we see the list of bankruptcy cases in Nebraska. I would urge you to look at these. Many of these are small businessmen. Many of these are small