

CLERK: 289 by Senator DeCamp on page 2527 of the Journal.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, your resolution 289. You wish to withdraw it or...withdraw it? It is withdrawn.
LR 290.

CLERK: Mr. President, 290 on page 2539 of the Journal.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Marsh, please.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this resolution does two things. First, it expresses opposition to the federal administration's proposal to transfer the federal Railroad Unemployment Insurance System to the federal/state system. Such a transfer would result in a shift to state employment of 400,000 federal employees nationwide, and if Amtrak is eliminated, would result in an estimated \$200,000,000 in claims to be paid by the states over the next two years. Because of the increase in cost and administrative burden, it is in the best interest of the State of Nebraska to oppose this transfer. Second, the resolution calls for adoption by Congress of a bill embodying the recommendations of the Railroad Unemployment Compensation Committee pertaining to revision of the present Railroad Unemployment Insurance System. This committee is made up of representatives of railroad labor, management, the National Railroad Labor Conference and the public. In its final report to Congress in June of '84, the committee unanimously opposed transfer of the system to the states and made a series of recommendations for its revision. These recommendations pertain to financing and benefits and are intended to restore the solvency of the railroad unemployment insurance account. They include a higher tax on the railroad industry, stricter qualifying requirements for railroad employees and an increase in the maximum daily benefit rate from \$25 to \$27. I urge your support for the resolution.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, rise in support of the resolution. Nebraska is eighth in the nation in the number of railroad employees. Not only do the railroad employees, railroad labor, railroad management, are in favor of this resolution or against transferring this