

CLERK: 13 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The amendments to the committee amendments have been adopted and we are back to the committee amendments. Senator Hoagland, did you wish to speak about that?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes. Let me just make one additional statement pertaining to the committee amendments and the amendment to the committee amendments that we just adopted. Let me, first of all, as the sponsor of the amendment to the committee amendments, explicitly adopt those remarks made by Senator Landis with respect to the legislative intent of the amendment to the committee amendments and with respect to the committee amendments themselves. Let me state further that what we were trying to do in the committee and what we are attempting to do with these amendments is to limit the Uniform Arbitration Agreement to these three specific circumstances that I enumerated earlier, to existing disputes, to collective bargaining agreements and to construction contracts. And, further, it is important, we feel, at this stage of the development of the law in this area in Nebraska to limit the Uniform Arbitration Agreement to situations where the arbitration clause is negotiated between parties of equal bargaining power and where parties of equal bargaining power, whether they are represented by counsel or whether they are of equal bargaining power without representation by counsel, have agreed to submit any future dispute that may arise between them with respect to an agreement to arbitration and that we specifically do not intend to have the Uniform Arbitration Act apply in contractual situations between parties of uneven bargaining power where a company, a large corporation presents a fine print contract to a consumer who signs it without really understanding entirely what is in it. We think the decision as to whether the arbitration should apply to those kinds of situations should be left to future legislatures and it is explicitly not our intent to include it in LB 520. So, with that, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the adoption of the committee amendments and once again will be pleased to answer questions anyone might have.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, did you wish to speak on the committee amendments? No. Senator Withem, on the committee amendments? Oh, Senator Lamb. All right.