

to the industries that we would like to see them get their acts together. I think what we have with this particular amendment is as close as we are going to get it. It is an amendment that I can support. I would urge the rest of you to support. With that, I will give the rest of my time to Senator Hannibal to explain the amendment in some detail.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. As Senator Withem said, the amendment that is now before you is the amendment that many of you signed in the last two days that provides, instead of a straight repeal, it provides for a two-year phase out of manned cabooses in the State of Nebraska. I think I have explained it all to you individually what it does, but if you want to, you may look at the amendment. It is in the Journal on page 1939, I believe, of the Journal, and, basically, it is talking about trains under 6,500 feet long will come off of state mandatory controls, caboose mandatory controls, immediately upon enactment of the bill. That is for one year. The second provisions says that during the second year, trains under 8,500 feet long will come off of the state statutes with regards to manned mandatory cabooses for the second year. There is a provision in there that deals with articulated trains which is a relatively new type of train that is used for hauling containers across the country. It is used mainly for steamship lines and it is a new product on the market in the last two years or so, and there is a provision for that to be excluded, in other words that that would be able to be out of state mandating caboose laws with the enactment of this bill as well. There is a provision in this amendment that talks about telemetry system which we have talked about before on the floor and we called them a rear end device, and this is that box that sits on the back of a train that measures different things and the amendment spells out the definition of that, that system. And, finally, the amendment provides the emergency clause so that the bill would go into effect upon the signature of the Governor if it passes here and he does sign, and the purpose of that was, if we are going to have a two-year phase out time clock, the time clock we feel should start right away. There are 30 some signatures on the amendment. I think you will remember when we came around and talked to you about it. I would be happy to answer any questions or try to answer any questions as to what the amendment does but, in essence, Mr. Speaker, that is the amendment and I would urge the advancement or the adoption of the amendment.