

January 23, 1973

the members of the legislature and I would like it made known to the general public that I was a volunteer fireman, I served 25 years. I have my lifetime certificate and if the fire departments of the State of Nebraska especially the volunteers don't think I'm with them that would really be something because I'm strictly a volunteer fireman to the extent where I still get up out of my bed in the middle of the night when the whistle blows.

SPEAKER: Senator Snyder.

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. President and members of the legislature, Senator Hasebroock would you allow me a question please. I'm concerned about the matter lines 12 through line 19, regarding the exemptions here. It is my personal feeling that anyone in this country who is able and is not required in an emergency situation should serve on a jury, and I can think of no American duty more important than possibly voting then serving on a Jury, and we are allowing exemptions here after five years of service, or ten years if he is retired. As I read the bill and I want a clarification if I may Senator Hasebroock, that line 12 says when any member shall have retired from such company after having served ten years or more he shall be furnished a certificate of exemption, and I'm wondering why we should say good and dutiful fireman you've done your duty by serving as a fireman, when it appears to me he would be physically and time wise capable of serving on a jury.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: I think this has been the custom that has been going on for a good many years, I happen to be a volunteer fireman, have an exemption certificate, this is after you serve this many years, you don't need to be an active fireman you can retire to an inactive list, and this just shows that if you wanted to use that prior to that bill this would exempt you from jury duty if you brought that with you, many times too when, if you were called for jury duty, but I think, that, this was the reason to indicate another, that you were doing your local duty, this, the all volunteer fireman, they're not paid firemen, you understand, there's a lot of those in the State of Nebraska, I don't think we really realize what the volunteer fireman are doing, they're doing a splendid job, this bill just gives them this opportunity to serve on juries, those that wish to serve, but it doesn't handicap them.

SENATOR SNYDER: Thank you Senator, I understand that but I'm still concerned that more and more people are trying to gain exemptions from jury service. I would oppose you now, I may get with you privately, and try to -

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: I think this really restores it then exempts it, -

SENATOR SNYDER: Well it does, but it says he can't have the exemption after 10 years of service or 5 years of service if he is still active.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Yes, this may restore it there but they are allowed to, they can serve on the jury but they can be exempted in this other section that I read here before.

SENATOR SNYDER: Thank you Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: I have a question too for Senator Hasebroock.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Yes.