

February 8, 1973

CLERK: Title Read LB 249.

SPEAKER: Senator Carstens what is your pleasure regarding any committee amendments of LB 249?

SENATOR CARSTENS: I move the amendments be adopted. Now this amendment was necessary in order to avoid duplication of fire, of insurance policies for volunteer firemen. You recall that in one of the more recent sessions, this legislature passed a bill requiring that each member of the volunteer fire department throughout the state must have a life insurance policy, now it appears that some of these fire districts overlap, and if this bill as it is now written, would be fast, and become effective it would mean that in some cases, volunteer firemen would have to have a life insurance policy from two different districts. This is not intended and is not necessary. The purpose of this amendment is eliminate the possibility that any fireman would have to have duplicating life insurance policies. I move the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER: Any further discussion of the amendment as explained by Senator Carstens. All those in favor of the amendment say aye, those opposed say no. So ordered, the amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President there is another amendment from Senator Skarda.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Skarda.

SENATOR SKARDA: Mr. President and members of the body, the way the bill is now you've got a restrictive to one policy, I probably more than anybody else in this body knows more about fire prevention and fire fighting than anyone else I believe, I've spent in the neighborhood of twenty years in it, three in the active fire fighting division of the Omaha fire department where I was mortally wounded and some said too bad, that he wasn't permanently, but any how if I would have got killed under circumstances that exist, I worked for the municipality when it was a paid fire department, my wife would have got \$70.00 a month. Here we are talking about an area where these men do this work voluntarily are they acceptable to the same conditions as the paid fireman, and I just can't understand why we restrict it to one policy. I think it is unfair when the paid fire department goes over into another area involving another county or out of their jurisdiction and they get paid for it, when these volunteer firemen cross another sector into an area where they are not, the jurisdiction doesn't reside, it seems as though we try to eliminate them. I think it's more than fair for the few cents that might be involved that we open the door a little bit more and make things more acceptable in case something does happen where their family, or themselves are involved through a loss of a life that there would be more reward to them then we are presently giving them under one policy. I just think it is unfair and unjust and I think they are entitled to more consideration then what we are giving them. I move for the amendment to be adopted.

SPEAKER: Senator Barnett do you care to be heard on the Skarda amendment?

SENATOR BARNETT: I guess, I'd like to ask Senator Skarda a question if he would?

SPEAKER: Senator Skarda will you yield?

SENATOR SKARDA: Certainly.

SENATOR BARNETT: Senator was you amending the amendment we had in or was you amending the original bill, I -

SENATOR SKARDA: Amending the original bill.