

March 20, 1974

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Waldron.

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I ask once again that LB327 be returned to Select File for the specific amendment. This amendment is the one, of course, you know that was originally on.....

(End of Belt #6)

(Begin Belt #7)

the bill and as you well know, the bill LB327 is the consumer protection bill. A lot has been said about this bill but if you've read the editorial as written by the World-Herald, the bill cannot be all bad when the World-Herald endorses my proposal and very seldom do they do this. And I think many of your views are in line with the World-Herald here so I would like to take cognizance...be cognizant of the fact that the World-Herald did say my amendment was a good consumer protection bill and was needed. I would hope that you would go ahead and adopt this over the opposition of a special interest that has opposed it throughout this three year history. I would like to point out one thing new. The Better Business Bureaus say they can do the job very well and that this is not needed. Well, I talked to the Better Business Bureau here in Lincoln on the phone a few weeks ago. They assured me now and this was the lady running the place there, she assured me they were not in opposition to my amendment at that time even though they prefer the Murphy amendment. They said they hated to create the additional expense but they weren't in opposition. Just yesterday Senator Schmit showed me a letter from that same person and they said my bill was the worst thing, this is the same person saying it is the worst thing that could happen to the State of Nebraska and that the Better Business Bureau was taking care of the entire problem. Then she pointed out that they were handling 90% of the complaints that came to them and she did not explain, of course, what happened to the other 10% that they could not handle. And I would assume that those other 10% that are the important complaints. I would like to point out once again that the Attorney General's office or the County Attorney's office in Douglas County said they have laws that can only handle about 2% of their claims now...or 2% of their complaints in Douglas County. This bill is needed. LB327 is needed. I hope we pass it before we leave this session. I plan to try it several more times if it does not pass this time and I'll take as much time as needed and I hope you will support it this time so we can get it finished.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion of the motion to return the bill? Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellows members. If this bill is brought back and his...Waldron's amendment...Senator Waldron's amendment is put back on again, I would advise all merchants and vendors not to guarantee anything because they'd be liable for suit. Personally, I wouldn't guarantee anything but as is. Buyer beware. Now, I would like to leave it up to the Better Business Bureau and they're a real high-class outfit and they'll take good care of it and I think this would be...it would be a....a....boon for the lawyers to