

February 27, 1975

(mic inactivated)

SENATOR LUEDTKE: . . . second part of the amendment which is the emergency clause.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Motion is to move the second part of the amendment. Record your vote. Senator Goodrich, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR GOODRICH: What's this motion? To advance the bill?

SENATOR SAVAGE: This is the motion to adopt . . . the second part of the amendment.

SENATOR GOODRICH: OK.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Please vote. Senator Savage voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Savage voting aye.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Record the vote.

CLERK: Mr. President, there is now an amendment on . . . 26 ayes.

SENATOR SAVAGE: This last amendment was adopted. There are a series of amendments that the introducer would like to explain. Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, Mr. President.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Marsh offers an amendment as follows: (found on page 655 of the Journal).

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, the purpose of this bill is to do two things. The first is to add the words "neglect" to "in abuse or neglect", and this is throughout the bill. The second section is to give us a year to try what in actuality is currently happening that most reports of abuse in the metropolitan area of Douglas county are going directly to the Child Protective Services Division where they have a well trained staff who is working with the abused child and parents. Ninety percent of the time a case of abuse is reported, that child may be safely left in that home. Approximately 10 percent of the time there is court action taken and a child may be removed from the home or the parent may suffer judicial action. As the legislation is now written all reports go first to the police department or sheriffs department, then a report is made to the Department of Welfare. The amendment to 20, in the new section on page 3, we're talking about reports to be made, except in counties with a population of 250,000 or more where a report shall first be made to the Protective Service Unit of the county division of public welfare and thereafter such division shall in turn report to the police. We have an increasing number of child abuse cases as our unemployment roles increase. I would urge the adoption of the amendment to LB 20.