

January 8, 1976

There is a possibility, remote, but there is a possibility that Congress may yet act on this bill this year. I do not intend to press for the adoption of the bill as we had it. It could conceivably require insurance companies to develop forms and contracts that would be negated in subsequent federal action. However, it's entirely possible that another one of our glorious federal mandates will come down giving us 90 days notice. I think it would be in good conscience to bracket this bill where it is with the thought in mind that if this body finds it agreeable at a later date and the opportunity is there, assuming Congress makes up its mind, that we would be in a position to utilize this if it is to our advantage. At the moment I have no interest in advancing the bill in its present form. Congress has destroyed the proposition they held out to us for the past three years.

With the agreement of this body, I would bracket, indefinitely, this no fault bill where it is. It will die with the end of the Session, unless this body finds use for it in its present form. Congress has changed its mind one more time and I stand here with egg on my face because the staff and my Congressional people assured me last year that Congress would, in fact, pass a no fault bill. Congress, in fact, sat on its duff and did nothing. For that reason I ask that the bill be bracketed indefinitely where it is.

PRESIDENT: Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Murphy, I thank you very much. You do not have egg on your face. You've done a marvelous job. You brought to the attention . . . You have shown us what the federal Congress can do and will do at times. I heartily agree with you on the bracketing of this bill. I visited with you yesterday in regard to this. I do have some amendments for it. I'll leave them lay there. We'll visit about these as time goes on. I, for one, as I know you, Senator Murphy, we have only the interest of the people of the State of Nebraska at heart. We're not interested in what someone thinks in the federal Congress in regard to this. When they make up their mind we'll be ready to act. I assure you that I am not in opposition to what you have. I'm not in opposition to the concept of what goes on. There were some things in the bill, I think you agree with me, that probably should be changed. I do appreciate it. I say again, you do not have egg on your face. You've done a good job. I thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy, are you asking for unanimous consent to bracket?

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes sir.

PRESIDENT: Is there an objection? Seeing none, it's so ordered.