

of motor carriers to do is to study the ratio of expenses to income and general financial condition of the motor carrier industry in the state to determine if any change should be made in the Commission, the approved tariff at that time, to consider the joint employment of technical assistants to accomplish that purpose, to determine if it was necessary to file an application for a tariff change and do other acts that would be necessary to accomplish the filing for a rate change. I have indicated this has been the common practice for years. There's no problem about what is done as far as state law is concerned but this is an effort to satisfy the federal Justice Department that this type of activity of a group of individual operators being able to get together to file a request for rate adjustment is not in violation of anti-trust suits. I think it's an appropriate answer. It's a very logical thing that they would be able to do this and should be able to and this perhaps will provide an answer to the problem that exists or appears to exist at least in some states and so that the problem will not be created in Nebraska.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Any further discussion on LB 845? If not, all those in favor of advancing LB 845 to E & R Initial vote aye. Opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: LB 845 advances to E & R Initial. The next bill on consent calendar is LB 907.

CLERK: (Read title to LB 907.) The bill was read on January 17. It was referred to the Government, Military and Veteran Affairs Committee. It was advanced to General File by that Committee. There are pending, Mr. President, Committee amendments by the Government, Military and Veteran Affairs Committee.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislature, the amendment is a very parochial one. It just provides that the merging district should operate under the same mill levy limit as the rural fire districts presently do and we did that for conformity with Senator Carsten's agreement so I would move for the adoption of that amendment.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Any further discussion on the amendment? Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Senator Stoney, are you saying that the cities and villages would no longer determine the budgets of fire departments?

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Senator Stoney, would you respond?

SENATOR STONEY: Yes. No, Senator Murphy, that's not my understanding. This would just provide that it would be uniform and conform with what is presently being done in the rural fire districts now.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well, I guess I understand that except that rural fire districts are not under the authority of the County Board to set their budgets and more or less have a need for that. I don't know if this is going to destroy the ability