

April 7, 1978

LR 286

RECESS

PRESIDENT WHELAN: The Legislature will come to order. Roll call. Record your presence.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Frank Lewis would like to be excused until he arrives. Senator Maxey would like to be excused until she arrives, Mr. President, Senator Labadz until she arrives.

PRESIDENT: Have you all recorded your presence? Record.

CLERK: A quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We commence work with LB 286.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 286 was introduced by Senator Neil Simon of the 31st District. Title read. The bill was read on January 19, 1977. It was referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill was considered by the body on February 17th of this year. The committee amendments were adopted but the bill failed to advance on February 13, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President, members of the body, as the Clerk stated, the bill has come before the body once and I guess maybe the body was in kind of a capricious mood that day, although I understand, Senator Lamb, you do have legitimate objections and I certainly recognize those, but there were a number of people that voted no on the issue, not really out of sincere convictions and before, well, it was so close I decided the heck with it but I would ask that the body give this, I know it is a Friday afternoon, but I would ask the body give this matter a little bit of serious attention. This is a particular piece of legislation which will save the state money and, certainly, when we are all concerned about trying to utilize tax dollars as wisely as we possibly can, LB 286 does offer an alternative for us doing just that. LB 286 creates an employee suggestion system. It says that if you are an employee and have an idea in an area not related to your own and offer a suggestion to this particular commission which is established, if that suggestion is utilized which saves the state money, you can receive a commission on that. This type of employee suggestion system has been used, as I handed out, in 22 states. I understand now that Kansas has just passed it which makes 23 and I also handed out on your desk a report which shows each year how this particular incentive awards program has worked at the federal level. This is nothing that is new. The majority of states have it, or close to a majority. The federal government has it. Private industries have used it for a long period of time. Again, let me just say that this is a measure which would save the state money and I certainly think we all are looking for methods and ways of trying to do that. So, Mr. President, I would respectfully request the members of the body to support this particular bill, and if they have any questions, I would certainly be happy to answer any questions.

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