

March 4, 1980

LB 724

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: 724.

CLERK: LB 724 was introduced by the Government Committee. (Read title to LB 724.) The bill was first read on January 11, 1980. It was referred to the Education Committee for public hearing. It was advanced to General File. I have committee amendments by Senator Koch's Education Committee.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, this bill comes about as a result of holding a hearing on the original commission as it relates to firefighters in the state under the sunset provisions. It was at the suggestion of the Government Committee that the efforts of the former commission should be transferred to the vocational division of the Department of Public Instruction and that is what the bill is about. They had been doing this in the first place, so this merely makes it official in law that we will sunset the commission on firefighting personnel standards place it under the Vocational Education of the Department of Public Education, and this is in concurrence with the volunteer firefighters and others that this is properly right and there was little opposition if you noticed the statement in the hearing. I ask for the committee amendments to be adopted to the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis, do you have an amendment to the committee amendments?

SENATOR LEWIS: Yes, sir.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lewis' amendment is on page 859 of the Journal.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. President, Senator Koch was right that the original concept of the bill had no opposition until it was amended in committee, and it was amended in committee to eliminate the funds from the state to provide training for the volunteer firemen in the state. We have struggled with this issue for three or four years, finally have it well placed. We have a good fire service. They have visited about each and every one of your towns and I have the list extensively here which I won't bore you with reading. But that is very important...that is very important for the training of those volunteer firemen who not only serve a specific city, but the volunteer firemen