

the fed, the ICC and some others had said there will be no safety given up by eliminating that caboose, but you kind of had to trust us. You kind of had to trust the people saying it wouldn't be. We didn't have any way of measuring that. Well, things are different now. Things have changed in three years because we have been running cabooseless train operations in other states for the last two years and we have a body of evidence that has been reported in for some 16 million train miles of cabooseless operations and the facts are in. There is no significant difference. There is no increase in safety hazards due to running trains without cabooses. What might have held true three years ago, what might have been hard to prove because you can't prove a negative three years ago, now there is evidence that says what we thought was true is true and all these other states that are running cabooseless operations have shown it to be true. There is no significant difference in the safety operation of that train with or without a caboose. You take that one issue, the reason why it was voted in three years ago, and say that issue is changed, the evidence in and that issue is no longer valid, then you revert back to the economics. We are very, very concerned about economic development in the state, I am and all of you are because we have some real problems out there, especially in the agricultural sector. You take away the safety as a valid issue, you look at the economics and you say, why have it? I look at those three issues and I say, if labor management has decided that we've given it away already, we've already agreed to it, why have it? I look at the economics of the issue and I see, if we don't need it from a safety standpoint, if it doesn't serve any useful purpose, it's an unnecessary cost, why have it? I look at the third issue, the safety, and I say, the results are in and the safety hazards have not shown any significant difference, why have it? Those three issues I think have adequately been answered and I recommend that we advance LB 807 which is the repealing of the mandatory caboose law in the State of Nebraska.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, I understand we have a motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, actually, I do not. All the motions I had pending have been withdrawn. I have nothing on the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay. Senator Pappas, you're up next then.