

LB 147.

CLERK: Mr. President, excuse me, Senator, LB 147 was a bill introduced by Senator Lynch. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9, Mr. President, and referred to the Education Committee, advanced to General File. There are Education Committee amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, did you wish to take up the amendments first?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would be happy to do that, Mr. President. The Education Committee amendments to LB 147 simply extend the request that is in the bill to all school districts. I know Senator Lamb would agree that I have been a consistent supporter of Class I school districts since I have been down here, Senator Lamb, and we felt as though they also need the provisions that are in LB 147. Senator Lynch will explain in more detail what the bill itself does. It provides for an easier method of borrowing money at such times that school districts find it necessary for cash flow purposes to borrow funds. Currently, they have to fill out lengthy loan applications, borrow the money for a set period of time, whether they need it for that length of time or not. This facilitates their fiscal operations. What the committee amendment does is it...the bill was brought to us by the City of Omaha School District, specifically, for Omaha and Lincoln School Districts. We, on the committee, saw no reason why this should not be extended to all school districts in the state for those rare sort of occasions when school districts find it necessary for cash flow purposes to go to the bank to borrow some money. I urge you to adopt the committee amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins, did you wish to speak on the amendments? All right, the question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Now, Senator Lynch, on the bill.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, for some time now most school districts have been hurt in some