

penalty, a substantial penalty for being a negative balance employer at this particular point. They pay 5.4 percent of their payroll on the first \$7,000, I think it is, into the fund. A positive balance, the most positively balanced employer in the state pays one-tenth of one percent, I believe is the number. That's a 54 to 1 ratio. These people are already paying 54 times the rate as are those people that are the most positive balance. As Senator Chizek indicated, back when...evidently back when he was Commissioner of Labor, I think that was after entry of Nebraska into the Union, I'm not sure, the...the fund was created, it was through some federal mandates and through some legislation Senator Hefner pushed a few years ago increase, and we now have a 54 to 1 ratio. And somehow adding this to 59 to 1 or 64 to 1 is somehow supposed to solve a problem, just doesn't make a lot of sense. I would urge you to vote against the advancement.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Mr. Clerk, do you have a motion on the desk?

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Byars would move to indefinitely postpone LB 411. Senator Hefner would have the option to lay the bill over, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: I'll lay it over.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 411 is laid over. Mr. Clerk, do you have any messages or announcements?

CLERK: I do, Madam President. I have notice of hearings from the Agriculture Committee and from the Retirement Systems Committee signed by their respective Chairs. Enrollment and Review reports LB 27 to Select File, LB 269, Select File with E & R amendments, and LB 816 to Select File with E & R amendments. Those signed Senator Will as Enrollment and Review Chair person. (See pages 372-73 of the Legislative Journal.)

New bills, Madam President. (Read LBs 1157-1173 for the first time by title. See pages 375-79 of the Legislative Journal.) In addition to that, Madam President, a new resolution, LR 227 offered by Senator Moore. (Read a brief explanation. See pages 373-75 of the Legislative Journal.)