

county officials to prepare information from which political subdivisions make their budgetary decisions. As NRDs, educational units liked the extra five days that they had before, they just ask that instead of it being a one-time thing, that we put it permanently in the statute, and that is what LB 734 does, just makes it the permanent time, gives them that extra five days, and with that I would just ask you to advance the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Discussion on LB 734? Seeing none, do you wish to close, Senator Hillman? She waives closing. We will now vote on the advancement of LB 734. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 734.

SPEAKER BAACK: LB 734 advances. Go to LB 117.

CLERK: LB 117 introduced by Senator Lindsay. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 7, referred to Judiciary, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: We will go to Senator Lindsay's new stand-in, Senator Hohenstein.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Senator Lindsay was evidently not going to be here on time this morning, and his staff asked me to handle this for him. I hope this is not like what Senator Hail did to Senator Will the other day. In any event, LB 117 is a very simple bill. It provides for an additional penalty if an individual knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm or knowingly or intentionally possesses money used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of a drug offense. If that occurs, that creates an additional crime, which is a Class IV felony, carries up to five years in jail, \$5,000 fine, or both. This is not the same thing as using a firearm to commit a felony. Using a firearm, actually, to commit a felony is a Class III felony, separate offense, an enhanced offense. This is a Class IV felony. But I think it is the intention of the bill to eliminate the use of firearms and the possession of firearms during the commission of a felony. Certainly those are more serious sorts of offenses. The possession of a firearm while in