

Legislature, in looking at whether to vote for the committee amendments or not, I believe that the committee at least has fulfilled its obligation in terms of the way the bill was presented to us. In looking at most of the members of the committee, I think also you saw their hesitancy to vote perhaps for the Withem amendment. However, once it has been attached, the overriding concern of the committee was certainly to have a one-call system. That is the highest priority. Whether it was mandatory or not mandatory became a policy issue. That policy issue has probably been decided, I think. I now urge you to adopt the committee amendments as they are. I think the need for a one-call system in the State of Nebraska is necessary. If there are people who have problems with certain industries, who are going to have trouble with complying, we can address those issues of how do you begin to deal with compliance. But the overriding concern, I believe, is the system and the state needs a one-call system. The committee amendments, I believe, places the bill in a correct posture for people to either vote for the policy of a one-call system or to vote against that policy. Ultimately, I believe that was our responsibility as a committee and I would urge, at this point, the adoption of the committee amendments. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. We will now vote on the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the committee amendments? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Madam President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The committee amendments are adopted. Items for the record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Thank you, Madam President. LB 627A is a new A bill by Senator Abboud. (Read title for the first time. See page 1823 of the Legislative Journal.)

Amendments to LB 220 by Senator Will, and Senator Byars to LB 495. That's all that I have. (See pages 1823-25 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I would like to call the senators' attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Schellpeper are 20 sixth through eighth grade