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FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2001 LB 808

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 808. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Committee amendments are agreed to. Debate on the advancement of LB 808. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. First of all, I commend you, Senator Hartnett, for bringing this bill. I know that we've had an ongoing dialog on whether this is a retirement program or a recruitment program. So I think that it's important that we do all we can to recruit and retain the volunteers that so willingly give of their time. And I certainly hope that this will be a successful program, and I'm certainly going to lend my support, and hope that others will, to your proposal. So thanks.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Further debate. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I too rise in support of what the Urban Affairs Committee is trying to do. I think it's time that we acknowledge some of the efforts that are done by volunteers, and this is one way we can do it. And I appreciate them bringing this bill to us. With that, thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Engel on the advancement of LB 808.

SENATOR ENGEL: Can't say enough for the volunteer firemen and how much they do for their rural communities and how many tax dollars they save us all in the state of Nebraska. So I again thank Senator Hartnett for bringing this bill forward. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator