January 26, 1981

LB 206

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Two things, we didn't have the opportunity to override that veto because it occurred after we left the session. Finally I have managed to smoke out the Attorney General and he made an admission which I wasn't able to get him to admit last time which is if we get a bill through the Legislature the presumption that the court makes of that law is that it is constitutional. Any construction that can be placed on that law to uphold it will be so placed by the court. In order for a law to be struck down, it takes a supermajority in Nebraska or five of the seven judges rather than four. So the Attorney General has admitted that it would be very difficult for him to defeat our obtaining expenses during the session if this law would pass. Now why he has an interest in seeing that we are denied expenses, I can't explain but I do believe that the Governor might reconsider his position and not veto the bill, but even if he should do that, I mean veto it again, we would have the opportunity to override which I think we should do.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fenger.

SENATOR FENGER: A question for Senator Chambers, please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, will you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Certainly.

SENATOR FENGER: My question, Senator, is posed out of ignorance. I noticed though the Reference Committee has referred 206 to Miscellaneous Subjects Committee for hearing. I sit on that committee and I don't recollect having held a hearing. I guess my question is, what is the authority for bypassing a hearing, number one, and number two, I ask the rest of you, are we running a risk of ramrodding legislation beneficial to those of us sitting in the chair and bypassing and what are we going to look like in the eyes of the recolle of the state if we run a bill directly to the floor that benefits us but those bills that supposedly benefit the people of the State of Nebraska must go through the regular motions? Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Fenger, I think your question is well taken. This bill had come before the Legislature, as has already been mentioned, during last session. It was introduced last session by the Executive Board itself, and because of the nature of the subject matter, not much in the way of new information could be developed from the public. So last session the bill was referred directly by