

March 27, 1981

LB 157

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may right before that, Miscellaneous Subjects gives notice of hearing for April 6.

Mr. President, LB 157 was a bill introduced by Senator Marvel at the request of the Governor and Senators DeCamp, Hefner, VonMinden, Wagner, Fitzgerald, Chronister and Wesely. (Read.) The bill was first read on January 14. It was referred to the Appropriations Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Marvel.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Mr. President, I move the advancement of the bill. Do you want me to explain it?

SENATOR CLARK: Explain the bill, please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. The Nebraska veterans' aid fund briefly is benefits in reverse most states as soon as veterans get home, give them a certain lump sum. Nebraska does not operate this way. What Nebraska does is to put money into the fund tied to a veterans aid fund in Nebraska and when there is a need, then that need is met. For instance this last year the average grant was \$250.46 and the process, in effect, goes from the American Legion Post, the V.F.W. Post, the D.A.V. chapters and the need is channeled through those organizations and the income from the money that is in the veterans' aid fund is used to pay for those in need. What this bill does is to change the statutory face value of Nebraska veterans' aid fund from \$11 million to \$11 million 500 thousand dollars and it is my understanding that next year if we proceed as we have in the past there will be added another half a million dollars. That is my explanation, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to support this bill, LB 157. This bill would increase the trust fund from 11 million dollars to 11 million 500 thousand dollars, an increase of a half a million dollars and I think this is a good way to help out our veterans and what they do is use the interest that this fund provides to take care of emergency situations and so, therefore, I would rise and urge you to support this measure.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, I move the previous question. We are all familiar with this bill.