

commend this bill to you. The committee did make several amendments to LB 296. I distributed to you this morning a copy of LB 296 with the committee amendments incorporated. It would be my suggestion that if you desire to change 296 that you work from that white copy which was distributed to you this morning. The amendment proposes numerous changes in the bill of a technical non-substantive nature as far as effecting the definitions of different terms which are contained in Senator Cope's LB 296 including changing the terms of apartment house dwelling, mobile home, as well as providing a definition of remodelling. In addition the amendments propose that the State Fire Marshal "shall" instead of "may" delegate enforcement to local fire protection authorities. This amendment came to us from the City of Omaha and others where these.... some of these functions are currently being carried on by the local authorities and it was felt that enforcement in monitoring costs would be considerably reduced if we utilized existing personnel. Thirdly, the bill as drafted provided that all new construction, excuse me, provided that all new construction or remodelling after January 1, 1982 must have a smoke detector and that all units constructed prior to January 1, 1982 must have smoke detectors prior to January 1, 1984. The committee amended the bill to exempt existing single family houses and duplexes except when they are remodelled. Under Senator Cope's bill, as it was originally presented to us, all single family houses and duplexes would have to have smoke detectors. The committee felt that this was going a little bit to far, that we should only require smoke detectors when a house is remodelled or when a new house is constructed so under the committee amendments and if you vote for the committee amendments, you are voting to insure that only new single family units and new duplexes would be effected or only those facilities when they are remodelled. That is a very substantive difference from the way the bill was originally introduced. Lastly the committee changed the penalty from a Class IV misdemeanor to a Class V misdemeanor for failure to have a smoke detecting device and they deleted the provision that every day be a single and separate offense. Those in sum are the committee amendments. I would ask you to adopt them and then we can work from there with LB 296. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: We are on the committee amendments. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I worked closely with Senator Barrett on the committee amendments which are before you at this time. We met with