

Senator Cope, with Fire Marshal Barnett and with a number of the agency and industry representatives that you see listed who spoke on the bill. We spend quite a bit of time to try to come up with some amendments which would deal with some of the concerns that were raised at the committee hearing to try and clarify some points. Those amendments were drafted and submitted to the committee and that is what is before you at this point. One key point I think should be raised at this time and that is the fact that we took out of the proposal that existing family units and duplexes would have to be required to install these smoke detectors. We took that provision out of the bill and instead require that when they are remodelled extensively or when they are built new the first time, they would have to have these smoke detectors. We originally thought of a proposal which would have allowed for upon sale of ownership the possibility of requiring smoke detectors at that time. However, it was felt that that was too cumbersome of an item and so that was not included but we did consider that as an alternative to the amendments before you. But in total I think you will find the amendments to be reasonable and clarifying in nature and support is urged for them.

SENATOR CLARK: Any further discussion on the committee amendments? If not, all those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Voting on the committee amendments to LB 296. Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the committee amendments Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Cope on the bill.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, I move that 296 be moved to E & R Initial. LB 296 is my priority bill. Properly installed smoke detectors will save lives. It is going to be at a minimal expense to everyone that is involved. I probably feel closer to this bill than most of you on the floor other than my fellow Senator Martin Kahle, because we have had some very bad fires in Kearney in January. There was a mobile home fire that killed three children. There was a dwelling fire in which two children perished and the Holiday Inn fire that I'm sure that you all know about that caused more than a million dollars worth of damage, but miraculously there was no one killed. Again, if there had been smoke detectors in the homes, the mobile home or the Holiday Inn, I am sure that lives would have