

Twenty-nine people were killed in these fires in Nebraska during this time. Put it this way, with that many fires this is the same as if every person in Senator DeCamp's Boyd County had a fire. Every person in the county or if every voter in the 1978 election in Senator Nichol's county had a fire. That gives you some idea as to the extent of the fires that we had in Nebraska. There were in 1980 1,048 dwelling fires, 165 apartments, 110 trailers, 23 motels and hotels and 21 boarding homes, nursing homes and hospitals. Property damage is almost unbelievable. This is in 1979, the 80 figures were not available, \$7,315,937. Sixty-seven firemen were injured in 1979. There were 165 injuries. Now that is on a state level. Let me give you a few on the national level. Over 2.7 million fires each year. Twenty times more deaths caused by fire each year than by flood, hurricanes, tornadoes and earth quakes combined. 80% of all fire deaths occur in your own home. Two-thirds of all fire injuries occur in your own home. 72% of fires are in residences of one and two families. You are two and a half times more likely to die if you don't have a smoke detector. Think of the odds on that. National surveys have shown that price and convenience are not the obstacles and it is not that even for the poorer households. The main obstacle of not having a smoke alarm is the belief that fires happen to other people. Now that is enough statistics and I have reams more of them. I believe for the small cost and the cost of smoke detectors range from ten to twenty to twenty-two dollars at the most. You can buy good fire detectors that are approved for ten dollars and up. The investment is minimal. The implementation, the inspection done by the Fire Marshal and those he designates to do it is very minimal. I ask you to support LB 296 on General File.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: There is an amendment to the bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vickers moves to amend the committee amendments (Read Vickers amendment).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: On the committee amendments on page 3, line 7, where it says "The State Fire Marshal shall administer the provisions of this act and shall delegate such responsibility to his or her authorized representative or the appropriate official charged with the duty of providing fire protection services within the local jurisdiction."