

Marshal has to at the present time, in other words, from the bottom up instead of from the top down the appeal would come. This does have the approval, by the way, of the State Fire Marshal's Office and he indicated to me that with this type of language then he could make certain that all buildings in the State of Nebraska, no matter where they are constructed, would meet the minimum codes established by the State Fire Marshal's Office. At the present time, because of this building that I am aware of in Omaha, it was constructed of a lower standard, if you will, than the State Fire Marshal would have allowed it to be constructed in places that were directly under his jurisdiction but he feels that his hands are tied without going through the established appeal procedures to do anything about it. So it seems to me that again as I indicated the other day on Senator Cope's bill that the responsibility is ours at the state level and we should shoulder that responsibility and we should make sure that our...the State Fire Marshal's Office, who we delegated that authority to, has the authority to enforce the codes throughout the State of Nebraska. I would remind this body that the analogy, it seems to me, is much as we have done with the local schools through the Department of Education. The Department of Education does have the authority to make sure the local schools do certain specific things and it seems to me that we should do this, even though we have delegated the authority to the local schools to operate their own business, it seems to me we should do the same thing as far as fire safety is concerned and fire codes and I do urge this body's adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Kilgarin, did you wish to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR KILGARIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, and colleagues. I will keep it brief because I know the hour is late but I just want to say that I support LB 266 and I also support Senator Vickers' amendment. Senator Pirsch, myself, Senator Wesely, Senator Vickers and the State Fire Marshal did have a meeting and we talked about some of the problems that I believe Senator Vickers' amendment will correct so I urge your support of Senator Vickers' amendment and of LB 266. Thank you.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Wesely, did you wish to speak to the amendment? Senator Vickers, did you wish to close on your amendment? The question is, shall the Vickers amendment