

April 23, 1981

LB 394

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have got one minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: That instead we ought to really send this back to committee and say to the committee please be able to tell us with some assurances just what is going to happen so that we can go to our constituents and say this is going to happen and this is why it is going to happen and that is a solid well-understood policy decision that this Legislature has made. Because in the end, if you vote for this amendment and if you vote for this bill, you are going to have to explain that to constituents and I would challenge the members of this body when they honestly admit and they think about it and they analyze the amendment, they analyze the bill, I challenge you to one simple question. Can you fully explain the bill and its resulting impact? I think for the large majority of us the answer is no immediately, and for those who say they can, I think there has to be some questions in their minds. So I urge you to oppose the Maresh amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope, you had a question of Senator Maresh.

SENATOR COPE: Senator Maresh, first, I agree with the concept but this does give me problems after hearing Senator Goodrich and let me, first of all, is our fund now, unemployment fund, are we solvent?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, we are. What they are talking about is building up a \$20 million over the solvency figure. They are talking about \$90 million instead of \$70 million and which I can't see why they'd want to raise that much money from the employers (interruption).

SENATOR COPE: If we are solvent and we did several years ago, we brought it up. We were below and all businesses, industry had to pay a premium.

SENATOR MARESH: That is right.

SENATOR COPE: And if we are solvent now, I really can't see the reason for it. Secondly, and let me give you an illustration. A year from now when it takes effect, let's say there is a business or industry that has not one single unemployment benefit to pay for the first year. Now, is that business going to be increased 112%?

SENATOR MARESH: I can't see how they would. Their rate should go down for more than one reason.