

April 24, 1981

LB 394

this time when two incomes are absolutely necessary. In many cases this loss of income, until the spouse can find employment, can be very detrimental to the family. I think these things should be also considered. This bill is not so precariously balanced that they can't afford to look at or consider other factors. This bill, in fact, has been assaulted by the industry itself and so consequently I think it is only right, and I would urge this body to accept this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Newell amendment as found in LB 394. All those in favor of adopting the Newell amendment vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Senator Newell. Okay, record the vote.

CLERK: 3 ayes, 20 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to adopt the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion lost.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Goodrich would move to amend the committee amendments to LB 394. (Read the Goodrich amendment as found on page 1573 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President and members of the body, what I am proposing here is, you will recall for example that the bill has that feature in it that says if they can muster up a 3 percent reserve over and above the claims, I am suggesting that if...since our base, our wage base, for this is three and a quarter billion dollars, 1 percent would be \$32 million and that would be sufficient base, sufficient reserve rather. Instead of mustering 3 percent reserve they would be held to a 1 percent or \$32 million reserve over the claims. Now remember that the fund has now got \$77 million in it and this would build that up to the \$90 million figure in and of itself approximately. We don't need the 3 percent. The other part of the thing is to put a lid on the total amount that any employer would have to contribute. The lid would be 5 percent. Now, in other words, the top percentage now is 3.7 percent. If we tell the employers that the maximum they have to contribute is 5 percent, then we can dispel a lot of the anxiety and fear of this particular bill. For that reason I would move the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers, do you want to speak to the Goodrich amendment?

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Chairman and members, I would like to point out a few things about the 3 percent that Senator