

May 20, 1981

LB 548

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this would entirely remove the Soukup claim from the claims bill. We, as a committee, allowed \$30,000 to be set up as a trust fund and here on the floor it was increased to \$50,000. A group of us feel that since this is beyond the committee's proposal that we should take it off entirely. So I move that this amendment be adopted.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any discussion on the Maresh amendment? Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, a question of Senator Maresh if he would yield.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: When you say "a group of us," Senator Maresh, were you speaking about the committee or others?

SENATOR MARESH: No, Senator Vickers, Senator Kahle and myself. There are others that are interested in this too.

SENATOR KOCH: What is the official position of the committee?

SENATOR MARESH: Well the official position of the committee was \$30,000.

SENATOR KOCH: Well you know as well as I do once a bill gets to the floor it becomes the property of almost everyone. So, therefore, I would object to that amendment and we maintain \$50,000. I think that that is a minimum. In fact, if this gentleman as you know, underwent I think some severe conditions, for us to go back to \$30,000, probably better off to go to zero because at least you are trying to treat it and ignore it that way. So I would reject Senator Maresh's proposal, leave it at \$50,000.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, well, Senator Koch pointed out exactly what we are doing as a matter of fact. We are attempting to go back down to zero and as a member of the committee I voted against this proposal in the committee. It seems to me that what we are doing is setting a precedent that can be very dangerous in the future. Now I am not going to dispute at all the fact