

January 15, 1982

LB 370

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Goll.

SENATOR GOLL: Yes, Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Goll, I will have to confess, I haven't read all of this bill. As I look in the book here I see that H & R Block was one of the opponents of the bill. Could you tell me why they are opposed to it?

SENATOR GOLL: They were opposed to it initially because of the license structure and because they have a number of operations existing in the state, yet all under the same, you might say, general umbrella, and it was felt the way the bill was originally written that they would be required to post a bond for everyone of their educational locations, to have a license for everyone of their locations where these courses are taught as well as a license for each agent. Now I am not sure how many they have throughout the state. It is like six, seven or eight, and in that case it would have required them to post a \$20,000 bond. It would have required them to remit the fees for the license in each case. By our amendments, they come under the context of our law with one bond, with one license and with one agency fee but each independent instructional unit is responsible to the parent.

SENATOR HIGGINS: They are in favor of the bill now since you have exempted them?

SENATOR GOLL: Yes, they are.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And they are going to have one license for \$20,000 or one bond? What is the purpose of the bond?

SENATOR GOLL: Well, the bonding purpose is, the purpose for it is the same as we require bond for other...performance bond. I have a bond as an automobile dealer. I am sure insurance agencies are bonded. It is the same reason.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And is it a performance bond or is it payment bond?

SENATOR GOLL: It is not a performance bond. It is the other one, what is the other name?

SENATOR HIGGINS: There is payment. There is performance. There is maintenance. Is this bond being required by the state to guarantee the students that if they do not receive this instruction, H & R Block will refund their money or if they don't receive what they are promised in the way of