

February 1, 1982

LB 115

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Barrett, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BARRETT: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There are no more lights on.

SENATOR BARRETT: The Business and Labor Committee did feel in this particular case that this was a very fair compromise. This Legislature increased the maximum benefits \$25 in 1979 from \$155 to \$180, about a 16 percent increase. As a result of that increase, Workmens' Compensation rates increased effective September 1st of 1980, 17.2 percent across the state. And you are, of course, all aware that the employer is paying the entire bill insofar as those increases are concerned. The cost of Workmens' Compensation accidents as well has increased over the past several years. In about a two year period they have increased from \$21.7 million to \$35.9 million, a very substantial increase, about 65 percent. In these inflationary times, these times of economic stress, it is my feeling that this is a very fair compromise. I would urge that the....I would urge the body to adopt the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendment as explained by Senator Barrett. Senator Newell. Senator Newell, Senator Barrett was closing. All those in favor of the Barrett motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Senator Barrett, what is your pleasure?

SENATOR BARRETT: How many are excused, Mr. Chairman? Mr. Speaker, how many are excused?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Two.

SENATOR BARRETT: I hesitate to ask for a Call, but it may be necessary.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Have you all voted? Do you want a Call of the House?

SENATOR BARRETT: I do, and a roll call vote.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Shall the House go under Call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 0 nays to go under Call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The House is under Call. All legislators