

February 1, 1982

LB 115

result of the Workmens' Compensation system, and if we didn't have this kind of a system, undoubtedly there would be a lot of litigation and undoubtedly the individuals who were injured because of the connection with their employment would receive considerably greater coverage than they do under the Workmens' Compensation statutes, and I think we just have to recognize and remember those employees have given up very significant rights. We have taken them away with the unemployment.... or with the Workmens' Compensation system, and we should not be cheap, I don't think, or oppressive in preventing individuals from recovering some portion of their ability to live and recover some of those lost wages. So I would urge you to advance this bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I wonder if I could speak to the Chairman of the committee for a second. I assume that you raised from \$49 to \$69 the minimum. Is that correct?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Who are you posing your question to? Senator Barrett.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Barrett, in the Workmens' Compensation actually what we are doing, we pay 66 2/3 of their salary with a minimum and a maximum. That is correct, isn't it?

SENATOR BARRETT: That is correct, Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, we have that at what now for the maximum? \$190?

SENATOR BARRETT: LB 115 as amended has a maximum of \$190 per week and the minimum remains as the present law suggests, \$49.

SENATOR NICHOL: Well, didn't you suggest though to raise that minimum from \$49 to \$69?

SENATOR BARRETT: That was discussed by the committee, Senator Nichol, and it was the feeling of the committee that that should not be increased.

SENATOR NICHOL: To leave it at \$49?

SENATOR BARRETT: That is correct.

SENATOR NICHOL: Would you consider leaving the maximum