

March 17, 1982

LB 520

advise the State Fire Marshal's office in defining those fire safety standards but will remove from them the right of approving them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Beutler, do you wish to address the amendment? Senator Cope. Senator V. Johnson on the amendment.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this is what I would call a friendly amendment to the bill. When this bill was drafted, when this bill was originally drafted the problem that arose is that so often the Welfare Department would have some basic fire standards that were somewhat different, somewhat different from those of the Fire Marshal and everybody that deals with the licensing of child care said that you need to have one set of standards that attain. So the real question was how shall we make sure we have one set of standards that attains and initially the Welfare Department said to me, they said, why don't you give us the last word on the fire standards. Very recently they have said because we don't have any real expertise in the area of fire standards we would accept the Fire Marshal's being able to develop the standards so long as they have to at least check with us and get our advice and our input. What Senator Vickers in effect is doing is saying the last word on the fire standards does belong to the Fire Marshal but they always have to consult with the Welfare Department so whatever the standards there is still only one set of standards and people don't get mixed signals. So at this time I would ask you to support that amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Vickers to close on his amendment. The motion is to adopt the Vickers amendment. Those in support vote yes, opposed vote no. Twenty-five votes. Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Vickers amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: The amendment is adopted. Senator Beutler on the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would like to speak briefly in support of the bill. First of all I wanted to direct your attention to page 3 of the bill beginning with Section 5. In that particular part of the bill it says "The Department shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations establishing standards for the health, safety and protection of children pursuant to the licensing of