

March 19, 1982

LB 626

urge the body the Rumery amendment and to then return the bill to Final Reading.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I am going to have to oppose this amendment because I feel that we need to have a public hearing on whether we want the banks to take over these cooperative banking associations. I feel that this is not giving us enough information. You noticed the other day that we voted this amendment on without knowing exactly what we were voting on and so I would like to ask Senator Rumery to probably strike the whole amendment and have a public hearing on it and then exactly...exactly then we can see what we are doing. I understand that the Nebraska Association of Cooperative Credit Associations do not support this amendment, and I just talked to some of my people back home and they do not wish this amendment to be on this bill. So, therefore, I would ask you to reject this amendment and then maybe next year we can come back with a bill, have a public hearing, hear from both sides and go from there.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Labedz. This is on the amendment. You don't wish to speak to....okay.

SENATOR LABEDZ: On the advancement.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Higgins. Speaking to the amendment, yes, speaking to the amendment.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I am opposed to this bill all along and I will vote against the advancement of the bill when we get to that point. But as regards to this amendment, there isn't a Senator on this floor that doesn't realize what happened last week that was due to some form of chicanery or subterfuge by a lobbyist. I don't understand why, Senator Hefner, we are asking for a public hearing now on this amendment when we didn't ask for the public hearing last week, and I voted no on that amendment last week. So if there was a public hearing required, I think the time to have arisen and said, let's have a public hearing was last week and not today. So I would have to say that even though I may not agree with the amendment, I don't agree that this is the time now to say, let's have a public hearing. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: There are no further persons wishing to speak so, Senator Rumery, you may close on your motion to adopt the amendment.