

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? If not, the question is the adoption of the withdrawal of LB 235. All those in favor of withdrawing it vote aye, opposed nay. Ladies and gentlemen, I need a little help. We're voting on the withdrawal of LB 235. Thank you. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to withdraw LB 235.

PRESIDENT: It is withdrawn. We will move on to General File, LB 180, number one this year. Senator McFarland, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 180 was a bill offered by Senator McFarland. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, Mr. President, referred to the Education Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments pending at this time.

PRESIDENT: Senator McFarland, please.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. President. It's a pleasure to have the opportunity to be the first person to appear in support of a bill that's going to be debated this session. This is an excellent bill. It's a bill that was advanced out of the Education Committee on a unanimous vote. It was a bill that was introduced last year and introduced...passed out of Education Committee on a unanimous vote as well. Because of the short session last year, it did not make it through the Legislature because we just didn't have enough time for it. It was not placed on consent calendar and I didn't make an issue out of it because I knew I could introduce it again this year and I trust that I will have the support of the body on it this year. You have a packet of materials that has been distributed to each of the desks. It talks about the benefits of the bill and on the front is an editorial from the Daily Nebraskan that shows that they are supportive of the bill and also there is a copy of my position statement on the bill. Specifically, the bill allows for the persons 60 years of age or older to enroll in classes at the university, state colleges, technical community colleges on a tuition-free, noncredit basis. Space would have to be available for these senior citizen students and they would also have to have permission of the instructor. This is a bill that was suggested to me by one of the professors at the University of Nebraska because he had done his graduate work at Ohio State University and the State of Ohio had similar legislation.