

employment situations. Again, I think if Senator Coordsen is correct, the \$50 just brings it in line with some of the other boards. I think that is entirely consistent. As I said, it is a financial impact of \$1,000. I don't see that as very dramatic and I don't see it setting any precedent that we are exceeding an amount that other boards would then try to match. Apparently, already the \$50 limit has been reached on other boards and we would be just bringing them into line as far as payment for other boards. And, really quite honestly, I haven't really opposed the increase from 40 to 50 dollars, but in my view, the original bill which proposed \$70 had a real semblance of legitimacy to it in that if you take what \$40 was worth back in 1977 and you figure in inflation over the past 12 years, \$40 in 1977 is probably equal to about \$70 in 1989. So, but in any event, I have not made a big issue of that. I think \$50 for this year is appropriate, and maybe as Senator Warner says, we need to address and look at the whole broad picture. I would urge your advancement of LB 175.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. The question is the advancement of LB 175 to E & R Initial. All in favor vote aye, oppose nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 175.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The bill is advanced to E & R. LB 261.

CLERK: LB 261, Mr. President, was a bill introduced by Senator Kristensen and Senator Robak. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9, referred to Business and Labor, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes the distinguished gentleman from Minden, Senator Doug Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, and I think I appreciate that. LB 261 amends Section 48-186 of our statutes and deals with the Workers' Compensation Court. As you all know, workers' compensation is a body of law that deals with employees and employers in injuries that employees suffer while they are on the job. This is a quite a busy area of law in the State of Nebraska. Right now when accidents occur by an employee on the job, the hearing and the dispute about that