

February 15, 1989 LB 187
 LR 30

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 30.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Is there anything further, Mr. Clerk, before we go to General File?

CLERK: I have nothing further, Mr. President.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: The first item on General File this morning is LB 187.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 187 was a bill that was introduced by Senator Lynch, Labeledz and Lindsay. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, Mr. President. At that time, it was referred to Health and Human Services. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee, Mr. President. (See page 497 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, on the committee amendments, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. LB 187, as mentioned, does deal with the question of medical indigent coverage now the responsibility of the counties. This would shift that responsibility to the State of Nebraska. Just to quickly summarize the committee amendments, or maybe I should even start back a little bit, a couple of years ago a study was done by the Health and Human Services Committee that resulted approximately two years ago in a study report from a task force dealing with this topic. Legislation was introduced two years ago, two different bills. Both pieces of legislation did not succeed. We are back with 187 from Senator Lynch and, again, the question before us is what role the state takes in providing for the indigent care of our citizens. The original bill did provide for the complete take-over of the program by the State of Nebraska. The State Department of Social Services would have the responsibility for administering that program. They did come to the committee in a neutral capacity raising questions on an administrative basis to the bill. The committee did respond to their concerns and I think meet their concerns in the committee amendments, so I would ask for their adoption. What they call for is, first, changing the scope of medical services that are provided. What their intent here is to provide for the