

May 17, 1989

LB 305, 309A

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: (Microphone not activated) ...309A be advanced to E & R for engrossment.

SENATOR LAMB: Any further discussion on LB 309A? If not, those in support of advancement signify by saying aye. Those opposed no. The bill has been advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 305 is the next bill. I have no E & R. I do have an amendment to the bill by Senators Chizek and Hall. (The Chizek-Hall amendment appears on pages 2441-42 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Chizek.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. President and colleagues, this amendment is similar to one of the amendments we dealt with on 814 yesterday. Basically, what we have is you're taking the section of the bill that addresses the training funds, takes a million dollars out of the penalty interest fund from employment security, creates this Cash Fund with Economic Development for training purposes. Now I guess my posture is this will be...if this is done, you will then have four agencies of state government, that I'm aware of, in the training business. You will have the Department of Labor. You will have Social Services. You will have Voc Rehab and now Economic Development. I understand the arguments of those people who support Economic Development now getting into the job training business. The Department of Labor, historically, has been the training arm. The Department of Labor has 35, 40 years experience. There have been occasions where they have housed one of their people with Economic Development to help set up whatever structure is necessary, whether it be for a new employee or whether it be for a training program. The Department of Labor has offices from one end of the state to the other. The Department of Labor has staff in place. Obviously, colleagues, you know that Economic Development doesn't have all of the staff in place. As late as yesterday, we were dealing with four additional offices. So I think that if we're going to take the penalty interest money that the employers in this state pay on unemployment insurance and give it to Economic Development for training, I think we're making a mistake. Bear in mind you already have three state agencies in the training business. If you want to have another agency who is starting with a million dollars for training, if