February 1, 1990 LB 369, 713, 887

bill as amended, Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, now you have on your desk an explanation of the amendment that I am offering. I am offering an amendment, if anyone is listening, which folds three other bills into this bill; three similar bills, all of them are on General file. And this amendment is in your bill book but the explanation is right here on your desk. And one of the bills is LB 713 and that has to do with livestock forage vehicles used to carry unbaled livestock forage upon a highway. Now, currently, the mileage or the speed limit for these forage vehicles is 30 miles an hour and we are putting that up to 50 miles an hour. If you're going down the highway with a stack of hay, currently, to be legal, you have to go 30 miles an hour or less. We think it's reasonable to put that up to 50 miles an hour and that's part of LB 713 which is in the amendment. Now another part of LB 713 lets those people with that vehicle that hauls unbaled forage go home empty, go home empty. Currently, the cops are picking them up when they're going home empty because the statutes do not allow them to go home empty with this wide vehicle. You can go down the highway loaded with this load of hay on this vehicle but then when you come back down the highway, empty, to go home, you're in violation of the law. So that's part of 713 which is being amended into this bill in the amendment which is in your bill book, it's AM2221. Now another part of that LB 713... and there is nothing in this bill which has not been advanced by the committee, it's all on General File either in the original bill or in the committee amendment. It's kind of like that ad you've seen on TV about spaghetti sauce, all these...all these spices they talk about, they're in there, they're in there, they're in there. So this was brought to the committee, this part of 713 was brought to the committee by Senator Coordsen. And, currently, this section provides that for determining axle weights, the distance between axles shall be measured to the nearest foot. When a fraction in exactly one-half foot, the next larger whole foot is to be used to determine maximum axle weight. This was brought to us by Senator Coordsen because of a trailer manufacturer in his district that had trouble with that partial foot. Really, very insignificant but it does make them legal where they're not legal. Now another bill, or another section, or another bill in there is LB 887, Senator Scofield's bill, which was advanced by the committee this year, and this allows farm plated trucks to pull boats or cabin trailers. And Senator Scofield brought this to the committee. It seemed logical, no opposition to that;