

disqualification of benefits for individuals discharged for using controlled substances. This says that if an employer discharges an employee for using drugs or refusing to take the test for drugs, well then this employee would be disqualified from getting unemployment compensation benefits. We must remember that unemployment benefits are due to employee through no fault of their own. Where I feel that using drugs is a fault of their own and so that's about it to this amendment and so I would urge the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the amendment offered by Senator Hefner. Senator Hall, followed by Senators Crosby, Landis and Morrissey.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, a point of order, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: State your point, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, I would ask for a ruling on germaneness with regard to the amendment that Senator Hefner has offered. The provisions in the unemployment comp statute that we are dealing with in LB 315 are different than the drug testing statutes that are offered in the bill as it is an amendment now before the body, and I would ask for a ruling on the germaneness of that amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, this amendment deals with benefits. It says that they shall not receive benefits if they are taking drugs. This amendment that we're talking about and this bill that we're talking about deals with benefits. In fact, we're increasing the weekly benefits, so I would, in my mind, I believe that it is germane to the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall, in answer to your question, it occurs to the Chair that the amendments offered by Senator Hefner to the committee amendments are not germane. The Hefner amendment inserts a new section into the employment benefit table. In the opinion of the Chair, you are correct, the amendment to the committee amendment is not germane. Senator Hefner, did you wish to say something?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, according to your ruling then, I will withdraw this amendment at this time and add it when we are