

March 5, 1990

LB 313, 901

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the Coordsen amendment to LB 313. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Coordsen's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hall would move to amend. Senator Hall's amendment is on page 968 of the Journal. I do have a motion from Senator Hall to suspend the germaneness rules, specifically, Rule 7, Section 3(d) to permit consideration of his amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, and members. The amendment that I would offer after the rule suspension is the bill that I introduced in the form of LB 901 to the Business and Labor Committee. It is a bill that had virtually no opposition. I think there was one individual that testified in opposition, but when he realized that he would not be impacted by the bill I think backed off on that opposing testimony and just talked about some of the issues in the bill. What it would do is it would increase the state minimum wage to match the federal minimum wage and the increases that have been put in place and that will be put in place for the next couple of years. If you remember, Congress passed that bill last year. If you remember back to 1987, this body passed, seven years later, the state minimum wage bill that mirrored the federal minimum wage. It took us seven years to, basically, catch up for the employers that we cover that don't fall under the...excuse me, that do fall under the federal floor. In other words, anybody who doesn't meet the federal requirements as an employer does not have to meet the minimum wage standards. Well, as you know, Nebraska has its own standards by which an employer qualifies so that there is a gap there from those people, because the state's is a lower floor, there is a gap for those employers who are at or below the state minimum and when the federal minimum would kick into place. What my amendment would do is take the contents of LB 901 and place it as new sections to LB 313, Senator McFarland's bill, and it would just have the State of Nebraska, those employers who fall within our minimum wage laws meet those same requirements that we ask...that the federal