

whether we can dictate federal policy or whether we can arbitrarily decide whether we are on a federal mandate or not and it's worded such that it shall not apply to any employer who is subject to federal law or federal regulations governing the administration of drug and alcohol tests. Going back to the argument that we...or the discussion that we had the other day, concerning the fact that many of the railroads, trucking industry, pipelines, gas companies, power companies that come under many federal regulations, this simply would say that in lieu of state law under these they would revert to federal law where they operate in multistates and I felt it was appropriate to return this for consideration again. Realizing that it is somewhat complicated in terms of those employers...employees that are subject to the tests, I felt that it would be in the best interest of these businesses operating in many states to be subject to the federal requirement rather than to individual state laws which may run not only in maybe 25 states but in all 48 or 50 states. So, therefore, I would submit this amendment to your consideration.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Discussion of the Wehrbein amendment. Senator Morrissey, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR MORRISSEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I just rise to oppose this and all other amendments till we can get back to the original intent of this bill, workmen's unemployment benefits increases. I don't...I think a couple years ago we did make a positive step in drug testing, saying if you are a citizen in Nebraska, this is...these are the types of drug testing that we want done. We put in some specific tests to protect the citizen that if they were drug tested that these steps would be taken to assure an accurate test. Some of these companies that are covered by federal law don't...all their employees aren't covered by federal law, just certain sections of their employees, certain sectors of their employees are covered by federal law. So if we give them a blanket exemption like this, we're simply not protecting the citizens of the State of Nebraska. I think they live with all kinds of laws that are different in all the other states and I think they can live with this. We are making a statement...we made a statement under 582 of a couple years ago that if you are a citizen of Nebraska, we're going to guarantee you some protection in good drug testing laws. And I don't think now is the time to waive any of those protections for any of our citizens. Thank you.