

January 30, 1991 LB 147

support Senator Wehrbein's bill and, Senator Nelson, unfortunately, I can't support your amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak on the amendment? If not, Senator Nelson, do you have any closing statement?

SENATOR NELSON: No, thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Okay, thank you, Senator Nelson. We will proceed to vote on Senator Nelson's amendment to LB 147. All those in favor please vote aye. All opposed please vote nay. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: It looks like it's a real popular amendment so I will accept defeat and we will move on.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 13 ayes, 14 nays on Senator Nelson's amendment, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment fails and we will proceed with debate on LB 147. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, this legislation was brought before us in 1989 and, at that time, it was to be raised from \$20 to \$40. The opponents, at that time, were Jack Mills from the County Association and Jack Merritt from Lancaster County. I noticed this time that they did not appear. I rise to oppose the amendment (sic) as the Senator had declared his Clerk of the District Court asked him to introduce this. I have not had anyone approach me as to the jurors' fees being too little. In fact, 80 to 85 percent of the cases in Douglas County, the juror's fees are not kept by the juror. They're taken by the employee. An employee can be relieved of jury duty quite easily. The conditions he can be relieved is under hardship which covers everything, extreme inconvenience which covers the thing undue hardship does not cover, and public necessity. So if a person is actually hurting for baby-sitters or for whatever reason there is, you can be excused from jury duty. A lot of people feel that jury duty is paying some other civic rent. They do not serve on any boards or commissions. They do not serve on the city council or the county board. They