

February 5, 1991 LB 69

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the bill. (See FA14 on Page 550 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is the last of my amendments, and with this amendment, if it were adopted, I would be in a position where I would feel very comfortable voting for this bill. And what it does is simply this, the operative date of the bill was stated to be February of next year. The idea behind that, as I understood it, was that the NCAA would be meeting sometime in late January and there would be further information available to us as to the nature of the conflict at that particular point in time. And that being the case, I wasn't sure that a February...I don't feel comfortable with a February date. I would like to have a date that allowed us to pass legislation next year in the event that this thing blows up larger than life. So the effect of the amendment is to change the effective date from February of '92 to June of '92, to give us a whole session. The reason I am doing that is, basically, this; I hope that I have learned some lessons from past experience, and sometimes the probability or the likelihood of a bad situation may not be all that great, but the consequences can be enormous. I think back to the low-level nuclear site legislation, the compact legislation that we had a number of years ago, we didn't think it was very probable that that would end up in Nebraska, but it did, and the political consequences to all of us have been significant. I suggest to you that the nature of this confrontation, and the nature of this conflict, and the scope of it, and the scale of it, whether it is going to involve taking away TV rights, lots of money, I don't know. I am not trying to use scare tactics. I don't want to do that. I want the bill to pass but I think it is good judgment to give us one more session to think about it in the case this becomes something larger than what we want to deal with. And that is the total purpose of the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hefner, did you wish...no, he waves off. Senator Chambers, did you wish to address this amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, being a kinder and gentler person this session, I am going to agree to Senator Beutler's amendment and I will tell you why. The consequences that people are discussing will never come into play. The NCAA, in its January meeting, may be