

February 11, 1991 LB 209

savings and for opportunities for the students in Nebraska. So I strongly support the advancement of LB 209.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Conway. Mr. Clerk, do we have an amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Withem would move to amend the bill. Senator Withem's amendment is on page 505 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Madam Chair and members, this simply adds one word to the bill that was left out of the compact. I might add that this compact needs to be passed by the several states in its current form in order for it to be operative. All of Section 1 of the bill is the language from the compact. Section 2 of the bill talks about how our representation on the...on the compact board will...compact commission will be chosen. That is open to changes and discussions and that kind of thing. In drafting the compact language into this bill, there was a word left out. On page 8, line 4, and this is a key word, it currently says, "The state shall contribute the funds not otherwise provided", might lead one...this is the section dealing with these cooperative agreements, might lead someone to believe that all of the states, whether they participated in an agreement or not, could be assessed funds. That is not the case. That is not the way the compact operates. As a matter of fact, the word "contracting" should be added in there so it would read, "The contracting state shall contribute the funds not otherwise provided." With that word "contracting" in, it makes it crystal clear that only those states that contract for services that agree to participate in one of the specific programs of the compact will be held liable for paying for that particular arrangement. We need to add this for both technical purposes and it also, I think, allays the fears that some people might have had about this. So, with that, I would move the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Does anyone wish to speak on the amendment? Senator Nelson. No, okay. Seeing no one wishing to speak on the amendment, do you have a closing statement?

SENATOR WITHEM: I would waive closing.