

March 14, 1991

LB 199

Committee. That committee reports the bill directly to General File.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Madam President, members, 1990, 71,300 workers were injured on the job, 53 of those were killed, almost a Desert Storm. LB 199 requires the Governor to annually proclaim the 28th of April as "Worker's Memorial Day" in regard to those kinds of workers and all workers in the country. This is not a legal state holiday, it is not intended to ever be a legal state holiday. For your information, presently the Governor is required to designate, by proclamation, a number of days, and I'll just mention three of them--January 5 the George W. Norris Day; the fourth Monday of September, the American Indian Day; October 11, Polasky Memorial Day. I would hope that you would consider this important legislation. And the date happens to coincide with when the...the anniversary of the passage of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, OSHA, and it became effective on September 27, 1990. So I would appreciate your support for this legislation.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, I have a question for Senator Lynch. Senator Lynch, did you say that this would not be a paid holiday?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you. I have a...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank...

SENATOR HEFNER: I have a few other comments. At the present time we have 12 paid holidays for state employees, and each state holiday that we have costs the state approximately \$1.3 million with the wages they're receiving today. And so I'm very concerned about this being a state paid holiday. And to clarify it a little more, I'll probably be offering an amendment on Select File to that effect, because I think we want to be sure that we do not add any more paid holidays to state employees. Okay, when I look at the law, the statute 84-1001, it says, paid holidays shall include all the days enumerated in Section 25-2221, and this lists the 12 days, and then all days