

March 21, 1991      LB 853

SPEAKER BAACK: Are there any...is there any discussion on the advancement of LB 853? Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Senator Moore, can I ask you just a real quick question about one program?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Moore, would you respond, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Sure, Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I refer you to page 4, program 194, you mentioned it briefly in your opening, and that was in the area of elevator inspections. Could you explain to me the background, as you understand it, as to why we have to have a deficit appropriation from state monies to take over that program.

SENATOR MOORE: The background, as I under...this is the elevator inspection, correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, that's right.

SENATOR MOORE: Omaha used to do their elevator inspections, and now they don't. And state law, now we are taking that over, and the Department of Labor is doing that. And so, because of that additional workload, right now one of the inspectors, previously from Lincoln, is doing the inspections in Omaha. And that is...created a tremendous waiting list. So we need to...if we...we are going to do it, we have to do it, unless we change the law. And so we are moving forward with giving some additional authority to hire a new inspector, and so they can keep the waiting list to a reasonable level.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, and the reason that...your understanding of the reason that the people in Omaha aren't doing the inspection is because of liability. Is that correct?

SENATOR MOORE: I won't venture to guess that right now. I mean that's vaguely familiar, but I hate to say yes.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay. But did they come in at their hearing and talk about that?

SENATOR MOORE: The Department of Labor is the one that