

April 17, 1991

LB 825, 852

the people that we hire in this state to be professionals when we hire them and to act as professionals when they're working. So with that, I would simply ask for the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Speaker Baack. We will now proceed to vote on the motion to advance LB 852. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of 852.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 852 is advanced. I would like to now direct your attention. Under the north balcony, Senator Rogers would like to recognize Dr. Richard Hanisch of St. Paul, Nebraska who is serving as doctor of the day today. Would you please rise and be recognized. Thank you very much. We will proceed now with General File, LB 825.

CLERK: Madam President, 825 was a bill introduced by Senator Wesely and Schimek. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 23, advanced to...referred to Judiciary, advanced to General File. I have Judiciary Committee amendments pending, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Chizek.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Madam President and colleagues, the committee amendments, I'm going to give you a quick overview here that the Congress, in 1988, passed legislation that amended Title 8 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. The enactment extended the protection of the Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination against individuals on the basis of their handicap or their family status. Congress gave the states until March of 1992 to implement the provisions of the act at the state level. If not implemented by statute and regulation by that date, Congress authorized the termination of federal funding to state bodies such as the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Employment Commission. Currently, colleagues, the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Employment Commission does not have the authority to investigate or take any action regarding the allegations of discrimination based upon the handicap status of or family status of individuals. So, essentially, what we have in LB 825 gives the Nebraska EOEC that authority. The committee amendments provide for the