

May 7, 1991

LB 849

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Lynch would move to amend. Senator, I now have your AM0994 in front of me.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Madam President and members, this...

PRESIDENT MOUL: I'll raise the call.

SENATOR LYNCH: This is a simple amendment found on page 1532 of the Legislative Journal. It simply spells out that preference will be given to bidders and applicants for goods and services contracts that are based in Nebraska, all else being equal. In other words, they have to take proposals and bids but if the bids are correct, proper and equal the business should go and stay and with Nebraska firms. It also requires contractors selected to establish a permanent office in Nebraska. We're going to be spending a lot of money on paperwork. I think we ought to spend it in Nebraska with Nebraskans. It's about as simple as it is. I'd ask for your support for this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. I'll now recognize senators wishing to speak to this amendment, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members, I reluctantly rise to oppose this amendment although I do rise to oppose to it. The amendment, and I should preface my remarks by saying if I were in Senator Lynch's shoes I would be offering this same amendment I think because there probably is only one individual who could benefit from this amendment. There may be others who would establish an office as the amendment requires in Nebraska in order to gain the contract, but if you read the amendment it says that you should give preference to Nebraska bidders, well, and then it goes farther on to say that you should also require that they have a home office or a permanent office in this state. The two don't basically jive, if you will in terms of one saying that it should be preference given to Nebraska bidders and then you have to establish a permanent office, unless we're going to basically say that if you're an out-of-state bidder and you do undercut a Nebraska operator, it's going to cost you a heck of a lot of money because we're then going to force you to place an office here in the state. So in other words, you are in effect saying nobody is going to bid on this contract except for in state people which, if you only have one or two, you're going to have no bids at all and