

May 9, 1991

LB 167

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Robinson. Quite frankly, through that discussion you can see Senator Landis, as I begin my closing, has done a major amount of work. The bill, in terms of what I introduced, the purpose is still here, and the way in which we go about it has been a source of a considerable amount of work by the Banking Committee, and Senator Landis, and the members of that committee to do those. So the actual workings have changed, but the purpose of the bill remains the same. And the way that we approach it remains the same, except for a lot more protections for the employees. I think of what Senator Schmit talked about, that he thinks about the employee. And that's the exact reason that I bring 167 and all the people are working, because if we don't address this, through the pressures of taxing and spending limits, reduced amount of money at the local level, do you know what's going to be the first thing to go? Benefits. They aren't going to cut their salaries, they're going to reduce benefits. And the people that are going to suffer are going to be the employees. And employees may find themselves without any coverage along with this self-funding. And it is the employees that really do benefit under 167 because they are the ones that we're trying, with limited resources, to still protect and allow cities to manage themselves, through the protections that Senator Landis and the Banking Committee amendments do, offer more protections than...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...were ever there before. Are they 100 percent foolproof? No, but neither is any insurance company that you'll ever buy insurance from either. I'd also like to thank Senator Peterson for making this his priority bill, because it is a priority of the state, it is one that we do need to examine. With that, Madam President, I would urge adoption of and the advancement to E & R initial of LB 167. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. We'll now vote on the motion to advance LB 167. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 3 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of