

April 2, 1992

LB 719, 1238

two-year extension is that he's not fighting very hard for it and, for some reason or another, I haven't figured out why, he doesn't have to. I would urge you to oppose the Lamb amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, members of the body, I have not entered into this debate for some time. I, very frankly and honestly, as a senator representing the 14th legislative district which is one of my roles, I agree a hundred percent with what I've heard Senator Hall indicating here during the...during the discussion, hold har...and Senator Landis probably stated it very eloquently as far as the validity or nonvalidity of a hold harmless. As the Chair of a committee that deals with education issues throughout the State of Nebraska, it was my sense when we heard a hearing on LB 1238 that there was, in fact, some justification for looking at this hold harmless issue and allowing it to stay in place a little longer than it has already. And, for that reason, I am supportive of this portion of the Lamb amendment, although the philosophical arguments that everybody, including, I think, Senator Moore, indicated that hold harmless as a perpetual state policy, it does not make sense. I agree with that particular concept. The other thing that Senator Hall has indicated with some frustration is the frustration that all of us feel this time of year when we see things leapfrogging above others via the amendment process as we are sitting here waiting for things to come up on General File, hoping to get our shot at issues that we think are more important. I share that frustration but I'm not sure that Senator Hall fully understands or if other members of the body fully understand this is not an amendment that Senator Lamb has pulled out of the air and decided on the 53rd day to bring before the Legislature. I will admit Senator Lamb has a degree of impatience and my thoughts are that if he were not quite as impatient, we probably would get to LB 1238 which is his personal priority bill, which is on General File, and I think probably if we all kind of suck it in a little bit and get to work and nose to the grindstone and give me some other good cliches that I can throw out here talking about...quit talking, and, I mean, that's a better one than others, Senator Hartnett, we would get to it in it's natural order. But it's not something that he has pulled out of the air. He did introduce the bill. His bill did come out of committee with an amendment. He is honoring that amendment. His bill called for a perpetual hold harmless. The committee decided to put a two-year hold harmless and sent the bill to the

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